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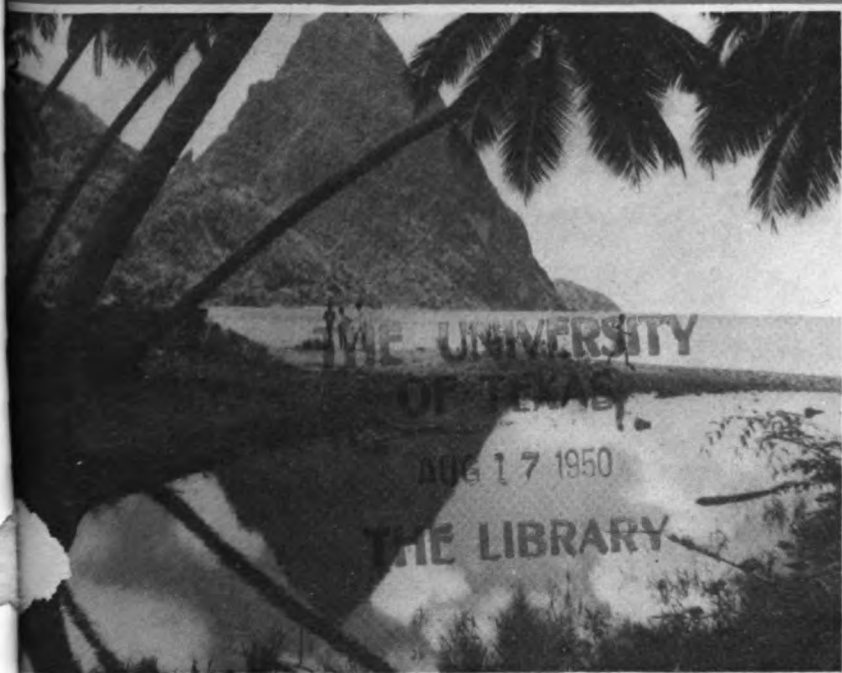
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COLONIAL ANNUAL REPORTS

St. Lucia

1948



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THE SERIES OF COLONIAL ANNUAL REPORTS
which was re-introduced for the year 1946 (after
suspension in 1940) is being continued with those
relating to 1948.

It is anticipated that the Colonies and Protectorates
for which 1948 Reports are being published will, with
some additions, be the same as for the previous year
(see list on cover page 3).

COLONIAL OFFICE

ANNUAL REPORT ON ST. LUCIA, B.W.I.

FOR THE YEAR

1948

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LONDON: HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

1949

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The cover illustration shows a view of Gros Piton

PART I

Review of 1948

THE year 1948 in St. Lucia was divided into two periods—the pre-fire period from 1st January to 19th June and the post-fire period from 20th June to the end of the year.

In the first period reasonable progress was being made, the Colony's Ten Year Plan of Development had been forwarded to the Secretary of State and was being implemented and there were hopes that, if energy was concentrated on production, the Colony might free itself from financial control by H.M. Treasury.

The tragedy of the night of 19th June, when four-fifths of Castries, including the heart of the town, was obliterated by one of the largest and most devastating fires ever experienced in the West Indies, is described in more detail in Part II, Chapter 12.

The immediate effect on the Colony was felt by the diversion of time, manpower and material to the tasks of rehabilitating on a temporary basis the life of the stricken town. The graver and less apparent effects will be felt in the decade following the fire as a result of the serious financial liability which a disaster of such magnitude must necessarily impose on the Colony, even allowing for the substantial and generous measure of assistance which His Majesty's Government has promised to provide.

The disaster necessarily focused attention on Castries. In the past the coaling trade and work on military buildings around Castries have attracted labour to the town at the expense of the more urgent and vital task of production on the land. Rebuilding will bring full employment in Castries on reconstruction work for the next three years, but may attract labour and retard agricultural advancement essential for the stabilisation of the Island's economy.

The following extracts from the Budget Address of His Honour J. M. Stow, Administrator, on 11th November, 1948, review the affairs of the Colony in 1948:

The Castries Fire of 19th–20th June with all its attendant tragedies naturally overshadows all other events.

Great efforts have been and are being made on the road to recovery from this disaster, many initial difficulties have been overcome, many temporary remedies have been found, but the plain fact must be faced that the fire has been a setback to the progress of the Colony and its effects will be felt for several years.

I do not mean by this that it is impossible to push forward the Colony's Ten Year Development Plan as energetically as possible or that progress cannot be made for the next few years. I mean that much energy and time which might otherwise be devoted to the task of development must necessarily be diverted to the task of rehabilitation.

Once again I must place on record the deep gratitude of this Colony for the most generous assistance received in its hour of distress. These gifts, spon-

taneously given, in many cases from neighbouring Colonies, will not be forgotten and will help to strengthen the bonds of friendship and unity in the Caribbean area.

The Fire Relief Fund Committee has acted energetically and I am most grateful for their labours and I am advised that an initial distribution of \$300,000 from the Fund will be made before Christmas.

We have received the heartening statement that His Majesty's Government is prepared to grant substantial aid towards the reconstruction and rehabilitation of Castries.

That assistance will, I am confident, be on a generous scale. The new Town Plan has been prepared expeditiously and expertly by Messrs. Rose and Lewis, and those officers have received the special commendation of the Secretary of State on their efforts. The advice which Mr. R. G. Gardner Medwin, Town Planning Adviser for Scotland and until recently Town Planning Adviser to the Comptroller, has tendered to the Secretary of State is, in short, that the plan is simple, imaginative and by no means extravagant. In the light of the new Plan revised estimates have been prepared and sent to London indicating the cost of reconstruction of public buildings, the reinstatement of public services, the installation of a sewerage scheme, the acquisition of land for the implementation of the Plan, compensation for pulling down existing walls where necessary and a housing scheme for the lower income groups in Castries. At present designs for the sewerage and water schemes are in course of preparation and a few days ago it was announced that the Colonial Development Corporation will undertake the work of detailed planning, co-ordination, supervision and control of the tasks of reconstruction, financed with the Government funds. That announcement is of great significance as it should mean that reconstruction will take place more quickly if entrusted to a large organisation. There is also the probability that the Corporation will be prepared to undertake work for private individuals.

Proposals for the provisions of loan funds at reasonable interest rates for commercial and private rebuilding have also been made, but I am not as yet in a position to make any statement on this subject.

I am aware that there is impatience at the delay before the real job of rebuilding Castries can start, but I think that it will be realised, on reflection, that the new Plan was prepared as swiftly as possible and that large estimates of reconstruction cannot be framed overnight. Above all, His Majesty's Government, without whose assistance little can be done, cannot be stampeded into decisions involving tens of thousands of pounds. I can, however, give this assurance now that so far as the Administration is concerned there will be no unnecessary delays at this end.

When the views of His Majesty's Government on the new Town Plan and the funds necessary for its general implementation have been received it will be possible to take the next step and to appoint a Commissioner for Reconstruction to take over the administrative control of rebuilding in the burnt-out area in accordance with whatever plan is adopted.

When reconstruction starts I am advised that priority must be given to the installation of the new Water Supply and Sewerage Schemes although these need not hold up other building operations.

I hope that if I have the privilege of addressing this Council at this time next year, there will be a report of the progress of reconstruction in Castries and that the outlines of a practical and worthy capital of St. Lucia will be taking shape.

FINANCE

During May a revision of the Ten Year Development Plan for the Colony was completed and copies of the Plan were forwarded to the Secretary of State. The Plan, recently distributed, envisages expenditure over the ten year period 1946-56 of about \$1,920,000 of Colonial Development and Welfare grant funds, \$1,617,600 of St. Lucia loan funds and a further \$772,800 from revenue or surplus balances.

This may sound ambitious but in reality a good proportion of the Colonial Development and Welfare funds have already been expended or hypothecated

since 1946 on approved schemes while other large amounts approved under the Colonial Development and Welfare Act of 1940 have been carried forward as a charge into the Act of 1945. The amount of 'new' money—if it may be so termed—available for expenditure during the next eight years is not, therefore, large and is frankly not sufficient to bring about any overall change in the Island's economy.

It should, however, be stressed that we have benefited considerably during the past year from Colonial Development and Welfare funds given in a generous measure and from our own contributions to development.

In the field of Agriculture, the largest project has rightly been launched—I refer to the Vieux-Fort Interim Utilisation Scheme which received approval in June. The Scheme is financed by a Colonial Development and Welfare grant of \$148,449.60 and Colony loan funds which will be recoverable amounting to \$255,840.

The grant is designed to cover the cost of implements and non-recoverable expenditure and the Colony loan funds to cover the annual cropping and handling of tenants' produce.

Despite the handicap of the late start in operations 300 tenants are now in occupation of about 500 acres of cultivated land from which attractive crops of rice and other food crops are already beginning to be harvested. The Agricultural Department is also operating a central farm of some 500 acres mainly to provide a measure of wage employment. On this central farm are 220 acres of cotton. The maximum number of persons employed in a single day has been 238 though most of the male labour seeking employment has come from rural areas outside Vieux-Fort. The whole project is experimental but I feel that in the limited time at its disposal the Agricultural Department has done remarkably well and it is hoped that the results of this venture will warrant its expansion and the development of similar projects elsewhere in the Island. Apart from the Vieux-Fort Scheme good progress has been made with the cocoa propagation centre at Union.

In view of Grenada's misfortune in the discovery of witches' broom disease a careful inspection and regular periodic examination of the Colony's cocoa fields is being arranged and officers of the Agricultural Department are being sent to Grenada to inspect the incidence of the disease there.

In the Sketch Plan provision was made for assistance to the banana industry and recent enquiries made by a firm of fruit dealers suggest good possibilities of the revival of the banana export trade. The company has offered to purchase varieties other than the Gros Michel which is subject to Panama disease. Steps are now being taken to import from Guadeloupe the required supplies of suitable banana suckers and a delegation consisting of an agricultural officer and a planter has already proceeded to that island for inspection purposes.

Now I should like to turn to the Colony's financial situation, to prospects in 1949 and to features of the Budget presented to you to-day.

The revised estimates of revenue and expenditure for 1948 are \$1,100,548 and \$1,332,985 respectively as compared with original estimates for \$1,227,651 and \$1,246,844. Revised expenditure from surplus balances is \$70,000.

The short fall in revenue is due mainly to the fire owing to the decrease of revenue from excise duty, spirit licences, trade duty and petroleum licences. Similarly, the collection of income tax has been delayed. There has also been a reduction in the revenue from investments owing to a drop in the value of our securities.

Some of the increased expenditure over and above the Estimates in 1948 is due to the fire for printing matter, furniture and back pay for the Police Force. An increase in the cost of prison dietary and heavy supplementary votes for wharves, roads and dredging have also accounted for the increase, while late in the year some \$50,000 was contributed as a recoverable loan for the Vieux-Fort Interim Utilisation Scheme.

I regret to state that storm damage on 16th and 17th October was severe and it is estimated that over \$50,000 will be required to make the necessary repairs to our road system.

It is unlikely, therefore, that our surplus balance at the close of the current year will exceed \$300,000.00.

For the coming year revenue is estimated at \$1,527,871 and expenditure at \$1,487,400, showing a small surplus of \$40,471. This picture cannot, however, be regarded with any complacency as the Budget is expected to be balanced mainly by 'windfall' revenue in the form of import duties as a result of increased importations since the fire. On the other hand, we propose to make heavy increases to the establishment of the Police Force and to improve the conditions of teachers, clerical officers and other grades, without any immediate signs of an increase in productive wealth to compensate these contractual commitments.

It would in fact be most imprudent to budget for these increases were it not for the fact that it is realised from bitter experience that the Colony must have an efficient fire brigade and police force.

There must also be a civil service whose general conditions of service are adequate. Provision for the capital equipment required for the fire brigade and for a new combined police and fire station have been included in the estimate of the cost of reconstruction which it is hoped that His Majesty's Government will defray.

Should funds not be forthcoming from that source there will be a further commitment of some \$48,000 for equipment which would turn the slender balance on this year's Budget into a deficit.

Features of revenue for 1949 apart from the increased provision for customs duty are an increase of \$8,400 in respect of increased rates of harbour dues which it is proposed to introduce at an early date.

From the Post Office an increase in revenue of \$50,054 is estimated from new issues of stamps. The silver wedding issues will shortly be on sale and next year new issues representing the change from sterling to decimal currency will appear.

An increase in revenue of \$8,790 is expected from collection of rents at Vigie. This is offset by expenditure of \$5,760 under Miscellaneous Services in respect of the rental from the War Department. There will also be other expenditure in the form of maintenance charges.

The amount of \$54,848 is anticipated as revenue from the sale of produce under the Vieux-Fort Interim Utilisation Scheme.

In general, it is not considered appropriate in the period immediately following the fire to increase taxation.

During 1948 efforts were made to review the incidence of export duties and to make certain amendments. Certain duties are in need of adjustment and it is proposed, working on the basis of the information collected in 1948, to raise the matter again and to reach finality.

Turning to expenditure it will be noticed that the provision for outdoor relief has been increased from \$12,000 to \$15,000. This is due partly to the need for providing for the relief of sufferers from the 1938 landslide, the relief fund for which will now be transferred to the Colony's Reserve Account. It is also due to the increase in the number of destitute persons.

Provision is made for the new post of Assistant to the Crown Attorney. The duties of this officer will include the provision of assistance to the Crown Attorney in drafting and routine work. It seems certain that the legal problems which will arise as a result of the reconstruction of the town will add considerably to the work of the Crown Attorney and the post is, I am sure, justified as a temporary if not as a permanent, expedient.

Provision is made too for an additional Medical Officer. The attendance at dispensaries throughout the Colony has increased greatly in the last ten years with the result that an additional burden has been thrown on the establishment of medical officers which has not been increased correspondingly.

Increased provision of \$1,768 is made for medicines and dressings.

Under expenditure for the Police Department are reflected many of the recommendations made by Brigadier Mavrogordato in his recent report on the Force after the fire.

St. Lucia has learned the hard way that she must have an efficient police force and a separate, well-equipped fire brigade. To that end it is now intended to implement the majority of the recommendations made. The commitments are heavy but are inescapable if we are to achieve the standard required.

The titles of the two senior officers are changed to those of Superintendent

and Deputy Superintendent and the salary of the latter post and of the post of Assistant Superintendent are improved.

It is proposed to create a new post of Inspector and to create another post of Sub-Inspector, abolishing the existing post of Sergeant-Major.

The creation of the Inspectorate grade should make the Force generally more attractive from a promotion viewpoint and provide an incentive to the right type of educated man to join the Force.

The establishment of station sergeants and sergeants is to be increased by one each and finally it is proposed to establish an entirely separate Fire Brigade consisting of nine n.c.o.s and 21 men who will be exclusively employed on fire-fighting services. Only half the full provision for the Brigade is being made in the Estimates as it is unlikely that the new Fire Station (included in the application for funds from His Majesty's Government) will be ready until the latter half of the year. On the other hand, recruitment and training can start now, thus releasing several constables for ordinary duty. The rates of housing allowances are increased by 25 per cent and the pay of rural constables is also increased.

Provision is also made for courses of training for detectives and instructors, for the immediate training of the Force by the employment of instructors from larger colonies with St. Lucia's contribution to a Windward Islands Police Training Depot which it is proposed to establish on the Morne.

I am confident that with these improvements in 1949 the Superintendent of Police and his officers should be able to weld together a police force of which the Colony will be proud and in which members of the Force will be proud to serve.

Provision is made for a new police station at Dennery, the continuation of the jetty at Anse-la-Raye and the erection of a new Poor House in Castries at a cost of \$5,760.

Provision of \$5,000 has also been made for the capital improvement of the buildings on Rat Island. When the improvements have been made it should be possible to increase the rentals for the buildings.

There has been an increase in the provision for main and second class roads. In 1948 these votes were reduced but it has been proved that the economy was false and the provision existing in 1947 has been restored.

The increase in the cost of living bonus for officers in receipt of salaries of \$1,920 and over and the increased rates of bonus now payable to pensioners makes it necessary for the allocation of the sum of \$84,000, an increase of \$12,000.

EDUCATION

The school building programme, for so long a subject of discussion, will soon be started as funds to the amount of \$104,241.60 have been approved for the construction of new schools at Vide Bouteille, Monchy and Augier. These three schools form part of a bigger programme which has been prepared and which includes the replacement of some existing schools as well as the erection of new schools in new areas.

Unfortunately the transfer of St. Mary's College to Vigie must necessarily be deferred for some time until the buildings to which the College were to be transferred can be released.

During the year training schemes financed from Colonial Development and Welfare funds have proceeded. Two teachers are now taking a course in House craft and Domestic Science training in Barbados. The names of three men have been submitted to fill vacancies in the Trinidad Government Training College. Applications have also been invited from women teachers to be trained at Spring Gardens Teacher Training College in Antigua.

Prospective teachers are now receiving academic training through the working of two Development and Welfare schemes. The Pupil Teachers are trained by Supervising Teachers, whilst other newcomers of suitable age and ability are admitted to the Secondary Schools for a three-year course before commencing to teach. Beginning in January, 1948, 24 such intending teachers commenced course at St. Mary's College and St. Joseph's Convent. Of the 14 boys seven were from Castries and seven from country schools. Seven girls were selected from town schools and three from country schools.

Under Education, provision has been made for an increase of \$13,000 for improved salaries for teachers. The salaries at present paid to teachers in St. Lucia are, I am satisfied, too low, and if progress is to be made in the field of education it is essential that the teachers should be adequately remunerated.

The provision which appears in the draft Estimates is only a token provision as the exact rates have not yet been decided. The matter is being referred in the first instance to a small Committee consisting of the Education Officer, Mr. Henry Belizaire and the Hon. H. E. Belmar, and their recommendations will then be referred to the Board of Education before a final decision is reached.

LABOUR

During the first part of the year a number of skilled and semi-skilled workers were recruited for Aruba and Curacao with the assistance of the Department. One hundred and eighty-eight workers were recruited for Curacao alone. Since the fire the employment situation has altered considerably and the demand for the construction of temporary buildings has absorbed most of the available skilled labour. Various projects such as the Vide Bouteille housing scheme, the dismantling of U.S. buildings at Vieux Fort, the widening of the Marchand Road, and the Vieux Fort Land Utilisation Scheme have also absorbed a number of the unemployed unskilled labour in the Colony.

The result is that there is probably fuller employment than there has been at this time of the year for several seasons. The failure of the Surinam emigration scheme which might otherwise have had serious consequences has, therefore, to a large extent been offset by opportunities offering or in prospect at home. Labour will have a full part to play in the coming year when construction starts and the Colony has a right to expect and I am sure will receive full value from labour in the coming year.

MEDICAL

So far as development is concerned in the field of social services, two important grants of \$42,640 and \$48,600 respectively have been approved for the provision of Health outposts at Anse-la-Raye, Richfond, Mon Repos and Choiseul and for recurrent expenditure on health centres. The latter grant is of special importance now that a Medical Officer of Health has been appointed (also under a Colonial Development and Welfare Scheme) and the Castries Health Centre is operating in full swing. A day nursery is a welcome feature of the amenities at the Centre.

PUBLIC WORKS AND TELEPHONE

In fact we have about as much on our plate now as the limited resources of the Colony can tackle. It may not be out of place here to review some of the development projects which have been taking place in the past year. The Vigie Airport has been given a seal coat and various other drainage improvements have been made at a cost of \$48,000.

When the barrack block in line with the airfield has been demolished St. Lucia will possess one of the finest airfields in the British West Indies and certainly one of the closest to any capital town.

After much tedious negotiation it has been agreed that the first part of the new bonded warehouse shall be constructed at a cost of \$103,200. The funds are being found by loan from the Joint Colonial Fund at three per cent. and the necessary legislation will come before this House at an early date.

Progress on the Dennery-Vieux Fort Road has not been as good as we had hoped but the major part of the work between Micoud and Dennery has been completed and the contractors have every intention of completing the contract this dry season.

First steps had already been taken before the fire towards solving some of the housing problems in Castries by the development of the Vide Bouteille housing scheme. Although work has so far been financed from Colony funds the scheme will shortly be submitted as a whole to the Secretary of State and will involve Colonial Development and Welfare grant funds. The main roads in this area are being constructed as quickly as possible and I hope that it will not be long

before lots can be let out to those who require them and the Government housing programme in that area can be undertaken.

Finally, I would refer to the proposal to provide electricity from Soufrière for the towns and villages down to Vieux Fort with a view not only to providing a much-needed amenity but also the means of providing power for minor industries and the proposed copra mill. Estimates of this scheme have recently been prepared and forwarded to the Secretary of State and I hope in the New Year it will be possible to finance the scheme from Colony loan funds.

So much for a brief review of the development programme. It is interesting to note that Colonial Development and Welfare grants approved in 1948 alone have amounted to no less than \$604,800. It has been obvious to me from many sources that the public has not had enough information about these various developmental activities, many of which are of real and lasting importance to the community. I hope, however, that in this brief survey I have shown that we are not standing still and that it is not intended to let the reconstruction of Castries unduly interfere with our plans.

In my Budget Address last year I made an appeal to the Civil Service to give of their best in the year 1948. I am satisfied that there has been a good response to that appeal and I am grateful for the effort made. In particular I would like to commend the way in which several departments in the immediate period after the fire settled down in temporary or improvised accommodation for the normal transaction of business.

During 1949 we hope to install new printing machinery, and the loss of our own facilities accounts for the somewhat undistinguished appearance of the Estimates now before you. I should, however, like to give special commendation this year to the Treasurer and his staff for their part in preparing these Estimates at an earlier date than usual in spite of the general dislocation as a result of the fire and the absence of any printing facilities of our own.

The year 1949 will be of the utmost importance to St. Lucia and I would most earnestly ask for unity in the task before us. Differing views we may have, differing ideologies we may possess, differing policies we may advocate, but fundamentally all of us desire to see the early reconstruction of the city and the progress and development of the Colony. Let us, therefore, close our ranks and go forward together into the New Year with confidence that, with God's help and unity of purpose, we can pass through from the shadows of discomfiture and emerge into the sunlight of brighter and more prosperous days.

PART II

Chapter 1: Population

RELIABLE statistics are not yet available. Such results of the 1946 Census as are at present available show the population of St. Lucia was 69,091, comprising 32,824 males and 36,367 females.

The number of inhabitants per square mile based on the 1948 Report on Vital Statistics is 350. The estimated natural increase for 1948 is given as 1,385. A comparison of the natural increase over the period 1945-48 is as follows:

	1945	1946	1947	1948
Males . . .	865	788	827	733
Females. . .	795	825	772	652
	<u>1,660</u>	<u>1,613</u>	<u>1,599</u>	<u>1,385</u>

The comparison of the numbers of immigrants and emigrants is as follows:

	<i>Immigrants</i>	<i>Emigrants</i>	<i>Increase or Decrease</i>
1945 . . .	2,885	3,233	— 348
1946 . . .	3,797	4,015	— 218
1947 . . .	4,650	3,988	+ 662
1948 . . .	6,797	7,829	— 1,032

The most populous section of the island is the Castries District, where there is a resident population of over 20,000. Choiseul, the smallest district situated at the south of the island, is estimated to support a population of over 7,000 on its 9.47 square miles. The population is mainly concentrated around the coastal towns and villages of Castries, Anse-la-Ray, Canaries, Soufrière, Choiseul, Laborie, Vieux Fort, Micoud, Denery and Gros-Islet.

Chapter 2: Occupations, Wages and Labour Organisation

OCCUPATIONS AND WAGES

The economy of St. Lucia is predominantly agricultural and it is, indeed, primarily devoted to the production of sugar cane. Other products include cocoa, coconuts and to a lesser extent mixed farm products. The Colony produces no minerals of sufficient quantity to justify commercial exploitation. There is no major industrial activity apart from the processing of sugar. The island produces insufficient timber to satisfy even domestic demands. Charcoal-burning is done to supply the demands for fuel both locally and in some of the neighbouring Colonies. The island contains numerous bays and inlets: this facilitates inshore fishing. A natural deep-water harbour at Castries is ideal for shipping.

The majority of the population are engaged in agriculture. Unemployment is a perennial problem, especially in the urban areas of the Colony. Projects occasioned by the necessity for Empire or regional defence have alleviated unemployment from time to time, as for example the construction of the bases by the U.S. Government during the last world war. Road-building and other Government work are responsible for absorbing some surplus labour.

Gainfully employed persons in St. Lucia, according to a census taken in 1946, were 31,891, of which 50·18 per cent were engaged in agriculture; 0·21 per cent in quarrying and mining; 3·27 per cent in fishing; 0·69 per cent in forestry; 14·89 per cent in manufacturing and repair; 9·67 per cent in construction; 1·75 per cent in transport and communication; 4·09 per cent in commerce and finance. The remaining 17·25 per cent were divided among the public and professional services, personal service and other occupations. Those figures also serve to indicate the distribution of occupation in St. Lucia in 1948, since no major change has occurred since 1946. Actual figures are not available.

The Castries fire which destroyed the main commercial and residential section of the town, provided employment on an average for 1,100 persons per fortnight in the second half of the year, one-third of whom were artisans.

The statutory minimum wage for agricultural labour in the Colony, effective since March, 1947, continued to be 3s. and 2s. 3d. per day of eight hours for an able-bodied man and woman respectively. The wages in respect of juveniles, as fixed by the same Order-in-Council in March, 1947, were from 1s. 6d. and 1s. 3½d. per day for boys and girls of 14 to 16 years respectively, and 2s. and 1s. 7d. for boys and girls of 16 to 18 years respectively.

As a result of bargaining by the trade union with the sugar manufacturers, a joint agreement was reached on the minimum wage on the sugar estates which was fixed at 3s. 6d. per day.

Work on the sugar estates is done on the task basis, however, and the average weekly earnings are as set out in Appendix I, which gives a schedule of wages paid in 1948.

COST OF LIVING

The Labour Department compiles and publishes monthly a cost-of-living index figure for working-class families in the Colony. It is difficult to state accurately the increases in the cost of living to overseas officials since the war, but the list (below) of pre-war prices of certain main commodities compared with those obtaining in 1948 should serve to indicate the rise in commodity prices.

COMPARATIVE PRICES OF FOOD COMMODITIES IN ST. LUCIA

<i>Article</i>	<i>Price 1939</i>	<i>Price 1948</i>
Flour . . .	2½d. per lb.	7d. per lb.
Rice . . .	1¾d. " "	2 lb. for 7½d. (4d. per lb.)
Cereals . . .	1s. " pkt.	2s. 11d. per pkt.
Beans . . .	5d. " lb.	1s. 2½d. " lb.
Sugar . . .	2½d. " "	4d. " "
Milk . . .	3d. " quart	8d. " quart
Fish (fresh) . . .	5d. " lb.	7d. " lb.
" (tinned) . . .	7d. " "	2s. 10d. " "
Pork (fresh) . . .	8d. " "	10d. " "
Meat (fresh) . . .	7d. " "	1s. " "
" (tinned) . . .	8d. " "	1s. 7½d. " "
Bacon . . .	2s. " "	3s. 4d. " "
Ham . . .	1s. 4d. " "	3s. 9d. " "
Butter . . .	2s. 8d. " "	3s. 5d. " "
Eggs . . .	9d. " doz.	2s. " doz.
Cheese . . .	2s. " lb.	3s. 4d. " lb.
Coffee . . .	10d. " "	1s. 9½d. " "
Tea . . .	4s. 4d. " "	5s. 6d. " "
Potatoes . . .	2½d. " "	4d. " "
Vegetables (green) . . .	3d. " "	6d. " "
" (other) . . .	2d. " "	5d. " "
Tobacco . . .	2s. 8d. " "	4s. 2d. " "
Cigarettes . . .	10d. " pkt. of 20.	1s. 3d. " pkt. of 20
Beer . . .	8d. " pint	1s. 5½d. " pint

The following table shows the cost-of-living figures from September, 1939, to December, 1948, as compared with the basic month (August, 1939) taken as 100.

	<i>Jan.</i>	<i>Feb.</i>	<i>Mar.</i>	<i>Apr.</i>	<i>May</i>	<i>June</i>	<i>July</i>	<i>Aug.</i>	<i>Sept.</i>	<i>Oct.</i>	<i>Nov.</i>	<i>Dec.</i>
1939 . . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	100	102	104	105
1940 . . .	106	107	108	109	110	110	110	111	111	113	115	118
1941 . . .	119	120	122	123	125	126	126	128	130	131	133	135
1942 . . .	136	137	138	140	145	147	150	155	158	162	165	168
1943 . . .	169	171	173	174	175	176	178	179	179	180	180	180
1944 . . .	181	181	181	182	182	183	183	183	183	183	183	183
1945 . . .	171	172	172	173	172	171	170	170	170	170	166	166
1946 . . .	166	179	179	183	182	185	184	184	194	194	194	199
1947 . . .	201	201	206	206	218	220	222	222	222	222	222	227
1948 . . .	228	228	228	228	230	230	230	228	230	229	231	233

LABOUR DEPARTMENT

The staff of the Labour Department during the year was as follows:
Labour Commissioner.

Assistant Labour Commissioner (acting as Labour and Factory Inspector under the Labour Ordinance, No. 17 of 1938 and the Factories Ordinance, No. 8 of 1943)

Third-class clerk.

Stenotypist.

Messenger.

The post of Labour Commissioner and Secretary of Labour was established under the Labour Ordinance, No. 17 of 1938, which outlined his principal duties as follows:

- (i) to supervise and review regularly the various forms of employment of labour which exist in the Colony;
- (ii) to ensure the due enforcement of Labour Statutes in the Colony;
- (iii) to bring to the attention of the Governor every matter or thing which is likely to be prejudicial to the welfare of any class of labour, or cause any disagreement between labourers and their employers;
- (iv) to make recommendations to the Governor from time to time for the promoting and safeguarding of the general welfare of labourers.

In practice all disputes which are not settled by negotiations between employer and worker come to the notice of the Labour Department. Encouragement and assistance are given to settle these amicably without recourse to the Courts. The Department also functions as an Employment Bureau and in addition collects information in respect of wages, hours of employment and working conditions generally in the Colony, compiles statistics relating to the retail prices of articles used by the working classes, and constructs the official cost-of-living index figures.

With the enactment of the Factories Regulations and the proclamation of the Factories Ordinance which came into effect at the beginning of the year, the Labour Commissioner became *ex officio* the Chief Factory Inspector, while his assistant was appointed a Factory Inspector to ensure the provisions of the Ordinance relating to safety and welfare of factory workers were carried out.

Advice and guidance when necessary are tendered to trade unions and employers organisations to promote and maintain amicable industrial relations and develop sound organisation.

The Labour Commissioner served on the following Boards and Committees:

The Labour Advisory Board, as Liaison Officer.

The Rent Assessment Board.

The Resettlement Committee for Ex-Servicemen and women, as Secretary and Liaison Officer.

The Labour Welfare Fund Committee, as Chairman.

The Prices Control Board.

TRADE UNIONS

Two trade unions, registered under the Trade Union Ordinance, were in existence during the year: one was the St. Lucia Workers' Co-operative

Union, the members of which comprise all classes of workers. The artisans of Castries formed themselves into an affiliated branch of the union. A meeting of bakers was held with a view to forming themselves into another branch, but interest waned and no branch was formed. The other, a specialised union restricted to dock-workers and seamen, is the St. Lucia Seamen and Waterfront Workers' Union

The St. Lucia Workers' Co-operative Union has built its own headquarters in Castries.

At the close of the year the St. Lucia Workers' Co-operative Union had 6,000 members and the St. Lucia Seamen and Waterfront Union 570.

An agreement between the St. Lucia Co-operative Union and the sugar manufacturers was reached before the beginning of the crop season and, as a result, unskilled labour on the estates received a 16 $\frac{2}{3}$ per cent increase over the statutory minimum wages. As a result of negotiations the following improvements in working conditions were secured:

- (a) Factory workers who were employed for a minimum of 234 days in any calendar year would receive one week's leave with pay;
- (b) lunch rooms were provided for the use of factory hands;
- (c) Suitable sanitary arrangements were provided.

Wage increases for dock-workers representing an increase of 20 per cent over the previous year were effected by negotiations between the Seamen and Waterfront Workers' Union and the shipping agents. This union also concluded satisfactory negotiations with Messrs. Cable & Wireless Ltd., of London for the employment of a St. Lucian crew on the C.S. *Electra*. Forty-one men, comprising the entire crew, with the exception of the licensed personnel, were employed at wage rates and conditions mutually agreed upon. Through the efforts of the Seamen's Union a Dutch shipping firm in the Netherlands West Indies engaged 48 St. Lucia seamen.

During the year 156 complaints and minor disputes were reported to the Labour Department, arising mainly out of non-payment of wages and differences of opinion between employers and servants in respect of the contract of employment. Advice and assistance to resolve these differences amicably was given in each case.

The year 1948 was notable for an absence of any major disputes. Relations generally between employers and workers have been good.

LABOUR LEGISLATION

The following legislation was enacted during the year:

The Sugar Cess (Administration) Regulations, Statutory Rules and Orders, No. 1 of 1948.

The Factory Regulations, Statutory Rules and Orders, No. 8 of 1948.

These Regulations were made under the Sugar Export Cess Ordinance, No. 5 of 1947, and provide for the establishment of a Price Stabilisation Fund Committee and a Rehabilitation Fund Committee and outline the powers and procedure of the respective committees.

An Ordinance to amend the Sugar Export Cess Ordinance 1947, the Sugar Export Cess (Amendment) Ordinance, No. 1 of 1948, was published in the Official Gazette of 28th February, 1948. The object of this amendment is to enable changes in the amount of the cess on sugar to be made

from year to year, and to permit of the discontinuance of the levy at some future date.

The Trade Unions and Trade Disputes Ordinance, No. 4 of 1948, came into operation on 3rd April, 1948. This Ordinance grants to local trade unions immunity from actions of tort and allows peaceful picketing.

No legislation exists for the provision of sickness and old-age benefits.

A summary of the labour legislation existing in the Colony appears as Appendix II.

Chapter 3: Public Finance and Taxation

Exact figures for revenue and expenditure for the year 1948 are not yet available but the comparative statement of revenue and expenditure collected over a period of years, ending with 1947, aided by a comprehensive exposition of the financial position of the Colony given in the Budget Address in Part I of this Report, explains the Colony's financial position.

REVENUE

Total revenue from local sources for the year 1947 amounted to \$1,216,857. Grants under the Colonial Development and Welfare Act totalled \$140,362. Colonial Development and Welfare Revenue dropped below the peak figure of \$507,778 reached in 1946 and of \$482,957 in 1945. Local revenue shows hardly any increase over 1946, there being no substantial rise in excise and import duties. The description of the main heads of taxation and the yield of each is as follows :

	<i>Taxation Head</i>						
	1947	1946	1945	1944	1943	1942	1941
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Excise Duty on } Rum	120,024	116,438	114,940	88,123	85,017	91,012	65,616
} Sugar	16,435	40,560	42,451	9,129	12,457	18,528	18,600
Trade Duty on Spirits	42,806	42,019	41,280	37,891	38,376	40,924	28,737
Stamp Duties	5,227	4,829	4,929	4,070	3,902	3,561	3,792
Succession Duty	9,202	4,910	3,835	5,928	12,307	3,604	1,110
Income Tax	154,594	132,485	109,276	101,150	138,388	116,524	46,824
Rural House Tax	4,104	4,044	4,281	3,614	4,392	3,336	3,081

EXPENDITURE

Local expenditure for the year 1947 amounted to \$1,428,131, excluding expenditure on Colonial Development and Welfare schemes, the largest items being Public Works, Medical Services, Post-War Services and Education. Expenditure on Colonial Development and Welfare schemes, though estimated to reach \$543,370, was \$133,580 only.

The statement of Assets and Liabilities as at 31st December, 1947, which follows, shows a total of assets of \$1,222,700 and a surplus of assets over liabilities of \$461,067.*

* Details of Liabilities and Assets will be found in Appendix IV,

STATEMENT OF THE PUBLIC DEBT AT 31ST DECEMBER, 1947

Description of Debt or Loan	Amount of Original Loan	When Incurred and Purpose	Amount Outstanding	Rate of Interest	Provision for Repayment and Legal Authority	Date Payable	Amount of Sinking Fund	
							Amount of Stock	Value of Stock
Debt Reduction Loan	\$ 345,501.30	1926—Repaying Advances made by Crown Agents	\$ 345,501.30	5%	Ordinance No. 10/1925	1951	\$ 242,364.40	\$ 256,509.76
Loan Conversion	79,903.76	1939—For payment of 5% local loan. Ordinance No. 62/1916 Revision. 5% Loan for construction of Baron Wing. Ordinance No. 3/1917 Purchase of Baron Asylum. Ordinance 73/1918 Revision.	79,903.76	3½%	Ordinance No. 24/1938	1959	27,573.28	28,391.56
Land Settlement Loan, C.D. & W. Scheme No. D497	115,200.00	1945—For the purchase of Barbados Settlement Co. Land in the Vieux Fort area.	115,200.00	Loan free of interest in the first instance. Terms of Repayment to be considered later. No Statutory Authority				
Black Bay Estate Acquisition Loan, C.D. & W. Scheme No. D376	47,136.00	1945—For the purchase of certain lands belonging to the Barbados Settlement Co.	47,136.00					
	\$587,741.06		\$587,741.06				\$269,937.68	\$284,901.32

LIABILITIES		ASSETS	
	\$		\$
Special Funds . . .	591,959.38	Cash	30,225.90
Deposits	116,523.54	Joint Colonial Fund . . .	51,942.12
Castries Town Board . .	245.12	Post Office	32,871.52
Towns and Villages . .	3,105.40	Castries Town Board . .	12,029.06
Intercolonial Accounts .	24,783.38	Advances	292,542.36
Drafts and Remittances .	25,015.44	Investments	784,806.46
General Revenue		Towns and Villages . .	4,666.88
Balance Account . . .	5,067.96	Bank Deposits	15,615.92
Surplus	456,000.00		
	\$1,222,700.22		\$1,222,700.22

CUSTOMS TARIFF

Import Duties

Imports may be classified under five heads:

Class 1. Food, drink, and tobacco on which import duty is payable at *ad valorem* and specific rates;

Class 2. Raw materials and unmanufactured articles on which import duty is payable at *ad valorem* and specific rates;

Class 3. Articles wholly or mainly manufactured on which import duty is payable at *ad valorem* and specific rates;

Class 4. Animals not for food at specific rates;

Class 5. Bullion and specie are exempted.

The principal items imported under Class 1 are beer and stout, grain (rice, flour, cornmeal and other cereals), preserves, milk, pickled meats, hams and bacon, tea, coffee, tobacco, cigarettes and double fats, butter and lard. These come mainly from Canada, the United Kingdom, the United States of America, British Guiana and Brazil.

Items imported under Class 2 are mainly leather and lumber and come from Canada and the United States of America.

Those under Class 3 are wearing apparel, cotton piece-goods, hardware, machinery, medicines, metals, paints and colours, and other manufactures of wood and timber. These imports come from Canada, the United Kingdom and the United States of America.

Those under Class 4 come mainly from Canada and include horses and asses for breeding purposes.

Under Class 5 bullion and specie are imported from Trinidad.

The cost of goods for the purpose of ascertaining the amount of *ad valorem* duty payable is calculated on the price charged for the goods by the vendor and verified by the genuine invoice of such goods. The calculation is based upon all charges on such goods up to the time of their arrival in the Colony; if the goods have been procured otherwise than by bona-fide purchase the *ad valorem* duty is calculated on the actual market value of such goods in the Colony at the time the goods are removed from bond.

Articles imported by or for the use of His Majesty's Naval or Military Forces, the Police Force, Girl Guide and Boy Scout Association, the Colonial Government, the Governor or the Administrator, and municipal authorities, and several other articles listed under Ordinance No. 8 of 1940 for the purpose of encouraging trade and commerce, local agriculture and scientific investigation, are exempted from payment of import duty.

A preference of approximately one-third is in many cases allowed on goods of Empire origin. The margin of preference is fixed by agreement.

The Governor in Council may remit or authorise the exemption of import duty or refund in whole or in part any customs duty payable or paid by any person or on any goods not specified in the table of exemptions in the 1940 Ordinance.

EXPORT DUTIES

Export duties are collected on exports from the Colony of which the main are charcoal, cocoa, coconuts and copra, firewood, fruit, honey, lime products and sugar.

Export prices are for the purposes of the collection of duty fixed by an Export Prices Committee under the Chairmanship of the Collector of Customs. For all items except firewood and charcoal the duty is on a sliding scale.

A cess is collected on lime products.

EXCISE DUTY

As may have been seen from an examination of the main heads of revenue and the yields therefrom, excise duty on rum maintains a special place. This duty amounts to 6s. 6d. per proof gallon charged on spirits made in the Colony.

The excise duty on sugar is of far less value and is levied at the rate of \$27.40 per ton of sugar manufactured and consumed in the Colony with a rebate of \$7.72 on dark sugar and \$9.54 on clear sugar. These rebates are in the nature of a subsidy.

The Governor in Council is empowered to remit the whole or any part of the duty payable if he is satisfied that it would be just and equitable to do so.

INCOME TAX

The yield from income tax paid in 1948 in respect of the assessment of 1947, is given in Appendix V together with the rates of tax chargeable under Ordinance No. 8 of 1948. The yield from income tax was \$177,894 in 1948 as compared with \$154,594 in 1947 and \$132,486 in 1946.

ESTATE DUTY

Where death occurs in the Colony the person accountable for succession duty is required within three months after the death to deliver to the Treasurer a declaration of the value of the estate of the deceased. The period, where death occurs out of the Colony, is six months.

The Treasurer may under certain circumstances extend the period for a further three months or six months in the respective cases referred to and any further delays may be granted on application to the Judge.

Succession duty is collected on all estates in excess of \$480, but half rate only is payable in respect of successions passing to the wife of the deceased, the mother or the lawful son or daughter.

RURAL HOUSE TAX

Taxes on houses situated outside the limits of any town or village are assessed on the annual rental value, and range from \$1.80 on a house the

annual rental value of which is not less than \$28.80 and does not exceed \$36.00, to \$4.80 on a house of a rental value of \$60.00 and not exceeding \$72.00, and 7 per cent on a house the rental value of which is over \$96.00 per annum.

The assessment is made by the Tax Officer and the tax may be paid into the Treasury or to a Rural House Tax Bailiff. Payment can be enforced in a summary manner before the inferior Courts.

STAMP DUTY

Stamp duties are collected on most commercial instruments at a rate fixed under the Stamp Duty Ordinance.

Chapter 4: Currency and Banking

The currency used is quoted in British West Indian dollars; one dollar equals 4s. 2d. and £1 sterling equals \$4.80. The current coin is in £ s. d.

During the year 1948 note circulation in St. Lucia was as follows: Barclays Bank (D.C. & O.) Notes \$145,870, Trinidad Government Notes \$504,140. The amount of coin in circulation is unknown.

The accounts of the Government and other public accounts were previously kept in sterling, but a change was made in January, 1948, to dollars. The accounts of Barclays Bank and the St. Lucia Co-operative Bank Ltd. were previously kept in dollars.

There are three banks operating in the Colony: Barclays Bank (D.C. & O.), the St. Lucia Co-operative Bank Ltd., and the Government Savings Bank of which branches exist at Soufrière, Vieux Fort, Dennery, Gros Islet and Anse-la-Rayé and Micoud.

The St. Lucia Co-operative Bank Ltd. was established in 1937 with an authorised capital of \$150,000. The total number of depositors in 1948 was 1,021 holding \$559,964. The bank which does a fair business in small short-term loans declared a dividend of 10 per cent in 1948, and as the sale of shares during the year mounted from 83,117 to 100,032, the Directors deemed it necessary to limit the issue of shares to new applicants to a maximum of 50.

Chapter 5: Commerce

The effect of the Castries fire on commerce was naturally considerable as business houses suffered tremendously in that stocks of imported commodities were in the main totally destroyed. Fortunately, only a negligible quantity of agricultural products were in warehouses awaiting shipment at the time of the fire. This chapter cannot boast accurate figures for 1948 as most of the records kept by the Customs Department relating to imports and exports were lost.

The volume of imports after the fire naturally showed a large increase owing to the necessity for replacing goods. In fact, most merchants were obliged to restock entirely after having set up temporary sheds. The quantity of relief cargoes which arrived after the fire also added considerably to the Colony's imports. Moreover, it is anticipated that 1948 and subsequent years will show a steady rise in the entry of goods and building material from abroad.

The imports and exports of St. Lucia in pre-war years may have been greater, but this was due entirely to the coal trade which was itself a re-export trade. Today, in spite of abnormalities, export figures are a more reliable index of prosperity since the export trade is almost entirely agricultural. It is estimated that the value of exports in 1948 amounted to \$1,116,832 compared with \$606,986 in 1938.

The estimated total value of imports in 1948 was \$4,117,853 compared with \$3,052,027 in 1947, and \$1,200,000 in 1938.

Most of the imports are articles wholly or mainly manufactured and food, drink and tobacco. Wheaten flour from Canada is the largest single item of imported food, valued at \$337,266 in 1948, while textiles lead in manufactured articles, being valued at \$446,384.

Imports from the United Kingdom increased substantially especially items such as machinery and motor vehicles.

Imports from hard currency areas were also increased due to replacements made necessary by the fire.

The percentage of the Colony's imports and exports from the United Kingdom and other parts of the world from 1939 to 1947 were:

IMPORTS									
	1939 %	1940 %	1941 %	1942 %	1943 %	1944 %	1945* %	1946 %	1947 %
United Kingdom	36.77	42.99	42.42	38.3	32.62	16.87	15.79	22.75	21.8
Canada	—	—	—	—	—	—	42.43	40.10	37.2
Other parts of the British Empire	30.94	36.7	48.3	44.56	48.3	58.37	22.97	16.60	14.6
United States of America	17.59	14.91	6.15	5.09	10.39	17.99	16.69	18.98	25.0
Other Foreign Countries	15.70	5.90	2.78	12.05	8.69	6.77	2.12	1.57	1.4

EXPORTS									
	1939 %	1940 %	1941 %	1942 %	1943 %	1944 %	1945* %	1946 %	1947 %
United Kingdom	42.5	56.68	63.38	61.37	32.65	14.83	52	39.3	37
Canada	31.37	15.87	11.27	4.43	0.11	0.01	5	0.23	—
Rest of British Empire	19.38	21.08	15.97	30.06	50.87	49.34	42	54.6	35
United States of America	6.70	4.02	9.37	4.14	0.05	0.01	1	2.9	27
Other Foreign Countries	0.50	0.35	0.01	—	16.32	35.81	—	3.1	1

*The percentages for 1945 are approximate.

Values of imports according to countries of origin:

	1945 \$	1946 \$	1947 \$
United Kingdom	310,084	548,654	668,011
Canada	833,332	966,787	1,135,512
Other parts of British Empire	451,305	400,330	448,257
United States	327,936	457,560	764,140
Other Foreign Countries	41,640	37,863	36,107
	<u>\$1,964,299</u>	<u>\$2,411,194</u>	<u>\$3,052,027</u>

Figures for 1948 are not yet available.

During 1948 the Colony was represented at the following Conferences:

(a) The British West Indies Import and Exchange Control Conference held at Barbados under the chairmanship of Mr. O. A. Spencer, Economic Adviser to the Government of British Guiana.

(b) The Working Committee of the Oils and Fats Conference held at Barbados under the chairmanship of Professor Beasley, Economic Adviser to the Comptroller for Development and Welfare in the West Indies, to review the working of the 1947 Agreement with special reference to the allocation of raw materials, ancillary materials and processed products as between the several Colonies participating in the Agreement.

Chapter 6: Production

There is no machinery available locally for the collection of statistics dealing with the entire range of domestic producing. In the circumstances, export figures as shown by Customs Returns must necessarily be taken as an indication of the trend of production.

AGRICULTURE

The amounts and values of the principal agricultural exports for the years 1947 and 1948 are shown below together with those for the year 1938 which afford a comparison with pre-war production.

PRINCIPAL EXPORTS

		1948		1947		1938	
		Quantities	Value	Quantities	Value	Quantities	Value
			\$		\$		\$
Sugar . . .	tons	6,568	659,031	4,615	477,305	7,806	325,012
Cocoa . . .	cwt.	5,096	214,429	7,726	289,584	6,198	39,993
Copra . . .	lb.	2,297,276	199,302	—	—	—	—
Molasses . . .	gals.	160,891	29,918	10	33	150,278	14,812
Honey . . .	lb.	148,722	16,574	—	13,479	52,400	2,400
Lime Oil							
(Distilled) . .	lb.	2,972	11,494	—	—	—	—
Nutmegs . . .	lb.	20,392	10,788	—	13,071	—	2,400
Coconuts . . .	no.	430,805	10,347	—	—	—	—
Lime Juice (Raw) .	gals.	12,764	8,620	—	—	—	—
Wood and Timber							
(Unmanufactured) —	—	—	3,128	—	—	—	—
Mace . . .	lb.	2,538	2,625	—	—	—	—
Lime Oil (Hand							
Pressed) . . .	lb.	175	1,400	—	—	—	—
Bananas . . .	bchs.	1,853	1,907	1,511	1,459	100,726	65,126
Cotton (Sea							
Island) . . .	lb.	1,700	826	—	—	—	—
Oranges . . .	no.	17,183	417	—	—	—	—
Limes, green . .	brls.	77	392	—	—	—	—
Shingles . . .	no.	5,516	275	—	—	—	—
Grapefruit . . .	no.	4,258	271	—	—	—	—
Ginger . . .	lb.	172	16	—	—	—	—
Lime Products . .	—	—	—	—	11,232	—	69,259
Rum . . .	gals.	—	—	13,431	8,985	10,251	5,692
Coconut Products .	—	—	—	—	306,760	—	53,792
Bay Oil and Bay							
Rum . . .	gals.	—	—	1,821	1,420	1,514	1,440
Vegetables . . .	—	—	—	—	5,577	—	3,600
Fresh Fruit and							
Products . . .	—	—	—	—	20,966	—	19,680

The total value of agricultural exports has continued to rise in recent years. This has been due largely to a rise in prices for the main products: sugar, cacao and coconut products. Production is still far from pre-war levels. The following review of the principal individual crops will indicate that there is little reason to expect any substantial increase in wealth from the existing units of production. There is a growing feeling that these circumstances demand a large contribution of fresh capital and great local effort to promote agricultural expansion and the introduction of new industries.

Sugar

Sugar continues to represent the most important industry in the Colony, yet it occupies only 2,083 acres of land. Production which has never risen to the pre-war export quota of 10,000 tons has fallen in recent years to less than 5,000 tons. With the decline of alternative employment which existed during the war years, and the consequent return of labour to agricultural enterprises, it has been possible to re-expand sugar production. This trend has been encouraged by the short-term guarantee of purchase by the Ministry of Supply and circumstances have permitted local sugar interests to undertake desirable measures of rehabilitation in the factories. A further stimulus to production is also being provided by a more liberal programme of manuring, involving the use of phosphatic fertilisers which laboratory analysis of local sugar-cane soils has shown to be essential for increased yields. Another encouraging feature during the period under review has been the introduction of heavy equipment for mechanising the cultivation of sugar cane. These measures are all confidently expected to increase the output of sugar, but it is recognised that expansion is necessarily limited by the configuration of the lands involved. Substantial increases in sugar can only be achieved by the introduction of new capital and additional factory equipment for the revival of sugar-cane growing on other lands.

Coconut Products

Coconut products continue to hold second place in the list of agricultural exports from the Colony. Production has only slightly increased. An agreement which emerged from the Second Conference on Oils and Fats of the British Caribbean region provides for the exportable surplus of coconut products to be delivered to Barbados. Small local factories are engaged in the manufacture of edible oil, but their efficiency and economy of operation cannot be compared with suitable modern equipment. Proposals by the local Coconut Producers Association are, however, well in hand to erect a central copra mill with which is likely to be associated additional pilot plants for the processing of dairy and pork products.

Cocoa

With the recent improvement in prices for cocoa beans increased attention has been given to the maintenance of the fields, resulting in some increase in yield. During 1948 the price of cocoa had risen to unprecedented levels, but at the close of the year there was a decline in price and uncertainty regarding disposal of the usual quota on the United States market.

Apart from the recession in price further anxiety was felt over the discovery in the island of Grenada of "Witches' Broom" disease. Examination of local stands has so far revealed no incidence of the disease.

Considerable progress has been made with the establishment of a local cocoa propagation centre provided for under Colonial Development and Welfare Project No. D800. This scheme is designed to permit the distribution of some 24,000 plants annually, sufficient for the establishment of 60 acres per annum. The material which is being propagated is derived from tested selections made by the Imperial College of Tropical Agriculture, Trinidad, and is being obtained through the Intermediate Cacao Nursery established for this purpose in the neighbouring island of St. Vincent. By the end of 1948, the initial propagator unit of the local centre had been completed and the first consignment of selected propagating material was being budded into seedlings obtained from local selections which had been germinated under temporary arrangement as early as December, 1947, that is, within three months of the approval of the scheme. The stocks now being budded will be planted in the permanent nursery site during the forthcoming wet season (July–November) from which material will be obtained for subsequent rooting by well-tried methods. Distribution of new plants to farmers is likely to begin during the wet season of 1950.

Lime Products

Once an important industry, this has suffered a continued decline until exports are now negligible. This has been due to the death of the trees and at the present time few local farmers show any interest in this industry.

Bananas

Despite the revival of the pre-war shipping service between West Indies and Canada, the export trade in bananas has not yet been restored. During the year, however, some interest has been shown by overseas firms, who hope to inaugurate an export trade with the United Kingdom or Europe.

Cotton

In an effort to increase local production and to make economic use of the residue of the lands vacated by the Barbados Settlement Company, the local Administration has given attention to the early introduction of Sea Island cotton-growing. During the past ten years only small areas of Sea Island cotton have occasionally been grown. In the 1946–47 season no cotton was grown. Largely through the stimulus afforded by the importation of tractors and other mechanical implements, the area cultivated in this crop rose to 286 acres during 1948. The strain being grown is the Montserrat Sea Island type. Progress was also made during the year with the establishment of improvised cotton-ginning facilities.

LAND SETTLEMENT

Other islands in the British West Indies have gone ahead of St. Lucia in attempting to establish permanent settlements of small-holdings. One attempt initiated in the 1930's had involved the opening up of the interior

lands in the high rainfall area where it was felt that development might be based upon the products of bananas and citrus. The erodible nature of this land combined with its comparative inaccessibility as well as the catastrophic landslides during the year 1938 discouraged this attempt. With the release of the lands formerly occupied by the Barbados Settlement Company whose activities were interrupted by the establishment of the U.S. Base, the opportunity presented itself for the Government to make some attempt to revive some basic economy to support the district against the day when alternative employment declined. Consideration is being given to the revival of sugar production in this district, and Sea Island cotton production is being encouraged. A central farm area is being operated to afford wage employment. Priority is, however, being given to the production of the essential food requirements of the workers, the ultimate aim being the settlement of a contented peasantry on residential holdings where they may gradually acquire self-sufficiency through a system of mixed farming. To this end 364 tenants were placed in occupation of approximately 500 acres of land, involving the cultivation of 150 acres of rice and other food crops, most of which has been reserved for family consumption. During the first six months one of the most promising tenants, who previously had had no facilities for cultivation, was able to get \$412.80 on sales besides his earnings from wage employment and a substantial reserve of food crops for his home.

This scheme was made possible by a Colonial Development and Welfare grant No. D947 which provided for the purchase of mechanical equipment, other capital requirements and essential supervisory staff. Advances are also provided from local funds to cover working credit for the operation of the central farm and to afford facilities for producers which are regarded as essentially recoverable expenditure.

ANIMAL HUSBANDRY

There is little improvement to report; a few improved breeds of horses, donkeys, bulls, sheep, pigs and goats were imported mainly for stud purposes.

Continued interest is being taken in dairying and butter-making. There has also been some success in the local manufacture of cheese on a small scale. During the year the first electric milker was imported and has since been used with beneficial results.

FORESTRY

The Colony is able to record an advance in the organisation of a forest protection service, silviculture and the systematic exploitation of timber. The amount of timber extracted from the Crown lands under the supervision of the Forestry Division amounted to 504,022 board feet during the year 1948. It is felt that with the increase in forestry staff and financial provision under the Colonial Development and Welfare Act, local forests can make a contribution towards local timber requirements, especially needed for the rehabilitation of Castries.

Extraction of timber is mainly organised at peasant industry level,

involving the use of large hand-saws and the transportation of the wood mainly by head through difficult country. A few small wood-working plants now absorb a proportion of the material so extracted, the greater part of which finds its way into the building trade.

FISHING

The encouragement of the fishing industry continues under a Colonial Development and Welfare Scheme D608. A Junior Fishing Officer was appointed in 1946. During 1948 an experimental whaler was built as an example to improve existing whaler types. This whaler is also used for fishing investigations. The construction of five beach sheds was completed with the help of a Colonial Development and Welfare grant D688—these sheds placed at fishing villages serve as shelters and market-places where fish may be sold under more sanitary conditions.

CO-OPERATIVE ACTIVITIES

The promotion of Rochdale Societies in St. Lucia was reviewed in the Colony's Revised Sketch Development Plan in 1948. Previously consideration had been given to the encouragement and supervision of the co-operative societies and a nexus with the Marketing Organisation was brought about by the appointment of a Marketing Officer. The plan for a Marketing Organisation formulating a marketing policy alongside co-operative development as an extension service of the Department of Agriculture received the approval of the Secretary of State for the Colonies supported by a Colonial Development and Welfare grant in 1946—Scheme D960 (Marketing Organisation) and Scheme D690A (Co-operative Societies Officer and Staff).

Before Government assistance was given to societies there were signs among certain groups of a desire for co-operation. These groups organised study clubs or undertook small co-operative ventures. The appointment of the Co-operative Societies Officer carried the following duties: to promote, consolidate and render thoroughly efficient the existing co-operative organisations, to extend such organisations, to show peasants the advantage of co-operative organisation and registration, and to supervise the working of the co-operative law.

The Co-operative Officer, who received initial training in Jamaica, went to pursue further studies in conformity with the scheme in the United Kingdom in 1947 and returned in 1948 having completed the first Training Course for Colonial Co-operative Staff in England. This course which was initiated by the Colonial Office was designed primarily to promote the study of co-operative organisation, legislation and administration.

On 31st December, 1948, there were four societies registered under the Co-operative Societies Ordinance—one consumers', two credit unions (credit societies) and one transport society—all of limited liability.

Legislation

The Co-operative Societies Ordinance, No. 17 of 1946, was proclaimed law on 17th June, 1948, together with the Co-operative Societies Regulations (S. R. & O. of 11th June, 1948). This legislation is based

largely upon the model ordinance and regulations submitted by the Secretary of State for the Colonies modified in the light of local conditions. The St. Lucia Regulations are unique in colonial co-operative legislation in that they make it compulsory for each society to set up an education committee to promote co-operative education amongst its members.

Consumers' Societies

The only consumers' society has been registered; it suffered a setback in trade as both its shops were destroyed in the Castries fire ; fortunately, its capital net loss was small as the stocks were insured. Temporary premises were quickly built and trading recommenced a month after the shops were destroyed. The society was handicapped through lack of trained staff.

Credit Societies

The credit societies are based upon the Credit Union system of North America and now being widely adopted and adapted in other Caribbean territories. Most of the capital is held in shares subscribed in instalments, which encourages thrift, and shares are withdrawable if due notice is given. There were negligible cases of withdrawals. Loans to members are made only for productive or provident purposes and in 1948 50 per cent of these loans were for agricultural purposes. The Co-operative Law makes provision for loans to societies by Government, but no Government credit was used in 1948. Two societies, not yet registered, exist at Saltibus and Dennery.

Marketing and Producers' Societies

The idea of co-operative marketing was discussed with various groups of producers throughout the island, and great caution exercised to ensure that the future organisations would be based upon sound economic foundations. One society (not yet registered) at Laborie operated a co-operative copra kiln. The members pool their crop of coconuts which is made into copra and sold to the local Coconut Growers' Association. A Bee-Keepers' Co-operative Association was started in October with the object of pooling and exporting honey abroad; it is anticipated that the 1949 crop, instead of being sold to local merchants, will be disposed of co-operatively. Preliminary work was done among peasants, rice-growers, and fishermen, and some cane-farmers in the Dennery area built a "co-operative" road to enable easier disposal of their sugar-cane crop, which was estimated to be 1,400 tons.

Transport Societies

A Transport Society was registered at the end of 1948. This society was formed to obtain a better and cheaper bus service between Vigie and Castries, and consequently an order for a passenger-bus chassis was placed in the United Kingdom.

Co-Partnership Societies

The majority of artisans and tradesmen of Castries suffered the loss of their shops in the Castries fire. In July, woodworkers, shoemakers, gold-

smiths and tailors met to consider how they could resume trade, and decided to form co-partnership societies for acquiring and managing workshops on a co-operative basis. Their main obstacles were the difficulty of obtaining suitable sites and capital for equipment. The Government is considering whether it can help financially.

Chapter 7: Social Services

EDUCATION

Owing to the destruction of the Education Department records in the Castries fire, it is not possible to publish figures relating to the increased efforts in education. The figures given in this chapter deal mainly with 1947.

In 1947 there were 45 primary schools and two secondary schools receiving grants-in-aid from the Government. Of the 45 primary schools, three are Anglican, three are Methodist and 39 Roman Catholic. The primary schools had an attendance roll of 10,997 and an average attendance of 6,752.

Primary Education

The sum of \$109,598 was expended from Colony funds on primary education during 1947, as against an estimated \$140,333 voted for 1948; the rise in 1948 is mainly due to the revision of the salary scales of teachers. These figures exclude the expenses of the Education Department, the cost of which is borne partly from local funds and partly by a grant from Colonial Development and Welfare funds.

In 1947 there were 361 primary school teachers, of whom 15 were trained, 99 held local certificates for competency, 56 were uncertificated, and 191 were pupil teachers. Training facilities for teachers included training outside the Colony, local training for intending teachers who follow a three-year course of study at a secondary school before taking up teaching posts in the primary schools, training of pupil teachers by supervising teachers paid from Colonial Development and Welfare funds, and internal vacation courses for certificated teachers. In 1947 the sum of \$20,913 was expended from Colonial Development and Welfare funds for these purposes and for departmental expenses.

In 1948 two teachers began a six-month housecraft training course in Barbados, and arrangements were made to send three men students and three women students for training at colleges in Trinidad and Antigua respectively. One teacher remained after war service in the United Kingdom to follow a three-year training course.

There are no Government schools in the Colony; but in 1948 the Secretary of State for the Colonies approved a scheme for the erection of three primary school buildings. Owing to the pre-occupation of the Public Works Department and local artisans with the conversion or construction of emergency housing, the building of the new schools was delayed until 1949. The three schools are to be sited at Vide Bouteille (to

meet the immediate need of a new Government housing area outside Castries), at Monchy in the north, and at Augier, in the south, adjacent to the Black Bay Land Settlement.

Secondary Education

A Roman Catholic Boys' Secondary School with a roll of 170 receives an annual grant-in-aid of \$7,200. A convent conducted by the Sisters of St. Joseph de Cluny receives an annual grant of \$2,160. This school in 1947 had on roll 156 boys and girls of whom 57 were girls between the ages of 11 and 18. The secondary schools together had seven men and 12 women on the staff; of the women four were part-time teachers. During 1947 the Government supported 22 scholars at these schools; in addition 11 pupils held Castries Town Board Scholarships.

In 1947 the staffing of the Boys' Secondary School was strengthened by the arrival of three Presentation Brothers from the Presentation Order, Cork, Ireland. The three Brothers, one of whom became Headmaster, are university graduates, who also hold education diplomas. The curriculum was redrawn to include elementary sciences, a grant of \$4,800 being provided for laboratory equipment, and extra-curricular activities were also extended. It was planned in 1948 to remove St. Mary's College to a former military barrack at Vigie, and to use the present premises for day and evening technical education. The need for emergency housing after the fire made it necessary to postpone this plan.

Visual Education

Before the fire the Education Department using a projector presented by the British Council and films obtained on loan from the Council gave shows to schools, clubs and adult groups in Castries and two other areas where electricity was available. More recently generators have been used to make this service available in many other parts of the island. Developments of this type are also being made through the use of film-strip projectors. Musical notation and sight reading was taught in all primary schools with help of the Director of Music.

Adult Education

The appointment in 1948 of a Resident Tutor of the Extra Mural Department of the University College of the West Indies, with headquarters in St. Lucia, was a welcome development that promises well for the future. In Castries two voluntary groups conduct adult evening classes mainly to combat illiteracy. Similar groups may be found in outlying districts.

Higher Education

In 1947 the Colony awarded two Higher Education Scholarships valued at \$1,200 per annum, and in 1948 one Island Scholarship valued at \$1,680 per annum. The St. Lucia Island and Higher Education Scholarships are established by statute and are tenable at universities for a period not exceeding six years. In 1947 there were 14 holders of these scholarships at universities abroad.

Board of Education

A Board of Education consisting of 12 members appointed by Government meets to advise on educational matters under the chairmanship of the Education Officer. During 1948 an Assistant Inspector of Schools was appointed.

HEALTH SERVICES

The Medical Services are administered by a Senior Medical Officer, one resident surgeon who is also Medical Superintendent of the Mental Asylum, and six district medical officers.

Figures showing the prevalence of the principal groups of diseases for 1948 are given below. Statistics of mortality for the principal groups of diseases for 1948 are not yet available, but principal causes of deaths in 1947 were:

Senility	196
Congenital Debility (children under one year)	166
Malaria	143
Diarrhoea and Enteritis (children under 2 years of age)	71
Heart Disease	69

	<i>Malaria</i>	<i>Yaws</i>	<i>Tuberculosis</i>	<i>Influenza</i>	<i>Enteric Fever</i>	<i>Worm Diseases</i>	<i>Gonorrhoea</i>	<i>Syphilis</i>	<i>Ophthalmia of the Newborn</i>
Victoria Hospital	85	2	11	2	20	22	25	47	1
District I	2,220	44	21	3	7	1,263	446	183	27
District II	1,770	126	16	230	9	1,831	275	155	40
District IIIA	639	8	12	20	—	626	51	32	3
District III	130	657	24	124	—	2,492	133	56	1
District IV	1,502	31	14	146	3	728	194	207	22
District V	1,093	184	51	325	4	800	238	91	2
TOTALS	7,354	1,050	138	848	23	7,740	1,337	724	95
Compared with 1947	+29	+118	+35	+277	-13	+2,678	+528	-95	+40

N.B.: Cases from Victoria Hospital are *not* included in the totals since these are already recorded in the District returns.

Treatment is available for in-patients at four hospitals:

Victoria Hospital	100 beds
Soufrière „	20 „
Vieux Fort „	22 „
Dennery „	12 „

Out-patients receive treatment at 12 dispensaries which are visited once each week by the district medical officer.

In addition to these outposts, the dispensaries at Castries, Soufrière, Vieux Fort and Dennery are attended daily by the district medical officers.

District nurses, who are all qualified midwives, are stationed at each of the dispensaries and are available for home deliveries.

Castries Health Centre

This was built with a Colonial Development and Welfare grant. During the first two and a half months of the year this centre functioned mainly as the Castries Dispensary with the addition of the mothers' section of the Maternal and Child Health Services and the dental clinics.

The centre now provides office accommodation for the Senior Medical Officer, the Medical Officer of Health, Sanitation Department and Public Health Engineering Unit on the upper floor. The lower floor of the main building is occupied by:

- (a) The Castries Dispensary with one large examination and treatment room.

The dispensary proper where medicines are dispensed for all Government prescriptions in the Castries area.

The dressing station attended by the district nurse.

This purely curative section is not properly a part of the Health Centre and it occupies space that is urgently required for other services. Moreover the dressing of ulcers, a large number of them of a chronic nature, tends to discourage some persons from attending other sections of the building; 14,860 attendances were recorded at the dispensary for 1948. The three district medical officers in the Castries area are responsible for two mornings each week at this dispensary.

- (b) The Maternal and Child Health Clinics occupy two rooms and are divided into the mothers' section and ante-natal clinic and the infants' section which has taken the place of the old child welfare clinic. The lady health visitor gives regular instruction to the mothers at these clinics both collectively in the form of a regular progressive course of instruction, and individually to the mothers who have special problems.

Nine hundred and forty-seven mothers attended the mothers' section, of whom 819 had blood tests for syphilis; 14.5 per cent of these were positive.

Two-hundred and eighty infants have been registered for the infants' section, and during the nine months 881 attendances were recorded at the clinic.

- (c) The V.D. clinics now function on four days of each week—two male and two female. One female day is arranged so as to synchronise with the mothers' section of the Maternal and Child Health Clinics so that the expectant mother may attend both clinics at one visit to the centre. This is a great convenience to those mothers who require treatment for venereal diseases.

The samples of blood for Khan tests are now taken at the Health Centre on two mornings so that patients no longer need to walk to the Victoria Hospital for blood tests. Routine Khan tests are done for all mothers attending the ante-natal clinics. The Medical Officer of Health is responsible for the V.D. clinics.

VENEREAL DISEASE CLINICS

Syphilis Cases

	<i>Sero-positive Primary</i>	<i>Secondary</i>	<i>Latent</i>	<i>Late</i>	<i>Congenital</i>	<i>Total No. of Cases</i>	<i>Total No. of Injections</i>
<i>Male</i>	50	112	55	55	4	276	2,251
<i>Female</i>	17	114	60	60	4	255	2,500

(d) The Dental Clinic held on two afternoons of each week provided dental services for 3,915 persons.

Health Education

A start has been made with the health education programme and for this purpose Saturday mornings have been reserved in order that school teachers, who form the most important link in this chain, should be able to attend. The subjects of lectures given included health education; functions of a health centre; infectious diseases transmitted by barbers and hair dressers; food handling; first aid; infant care; V.D.

In-service training for the staff at the Health Centre, mainly public health nurses and sanitary inspectors, has also been undertaken, and subjects of special interest to the staff are dealt with at staff conferences held on Monday mornings.

Day Nursery

A small building in Castries originally intended for nurses' quarters has now been fully equipped for use as a day nursery. On 21st June as a result of the Castries Fire a number of infants were discovered among the refugees at St. Mary's College and these, together with others from the neighbouring houses, formed the nucleus of what now is the day nursery. Twenty infants are kept and fed daily at this nursery, and a number of others for whom there is no room receive regular feeds of milk.

The thanks of this community are here recorded for the very generous assistance of the Red Cross and other agencies in stocking the nursery with clothing and equipment. The nursery is also being used for teaching purposes in connection with the classes on infant care. It is now used as a home for children whose mothers have to work and can make no provision for them at their homes; a teaching centre on child care for the senior girls from the primary schools and also for the mothers attending clinics; and a feeding centre for undernourished infants, who are recommended for extra milk by a doctor.

Aged and Infirm

The aged and infirm are cared for at Malgretoute Institution in Soufrière which can accommodate 100 persons. The Castries Home also looks after 35 aged and infirm persons in the Castries area. The Leper Home now has seven patients only, as 19 were sent to British Guiana for treatment. Excellent results have been obtained both in British Guiana and at Malgretoute with the new Sulphone drugs.

The Mental Hospital at La Toc had a daily average of 130 persons during 1948.

Public Health

The Sanitation Department is staffed by one Senior Sanitary Inspector and seven district sanitary inspectors, three of whom hold the certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute.

With the assistance of Development and Welfare funds considerable improvements have been made in the sanitation of towns and villages; improved latrines and the introduction of the borehole latrines for rural areas have been the main objectives of this scheme.

Drainage work has been done in the Vigie-Vide Bouteille areas by the Public Health Engineering Unit. This area is important not only because of the airport at Vigie, but also because of the housing schemes for the densely populated Castries area. The drains laid in the area are all lined with pre-cast concrete inverts.

HOUSING

During the year under review, the personnel of the Central Housing Authority, whose term of service ended on 25th April, 1948, were all reappointed.

Buildings Bye-Law

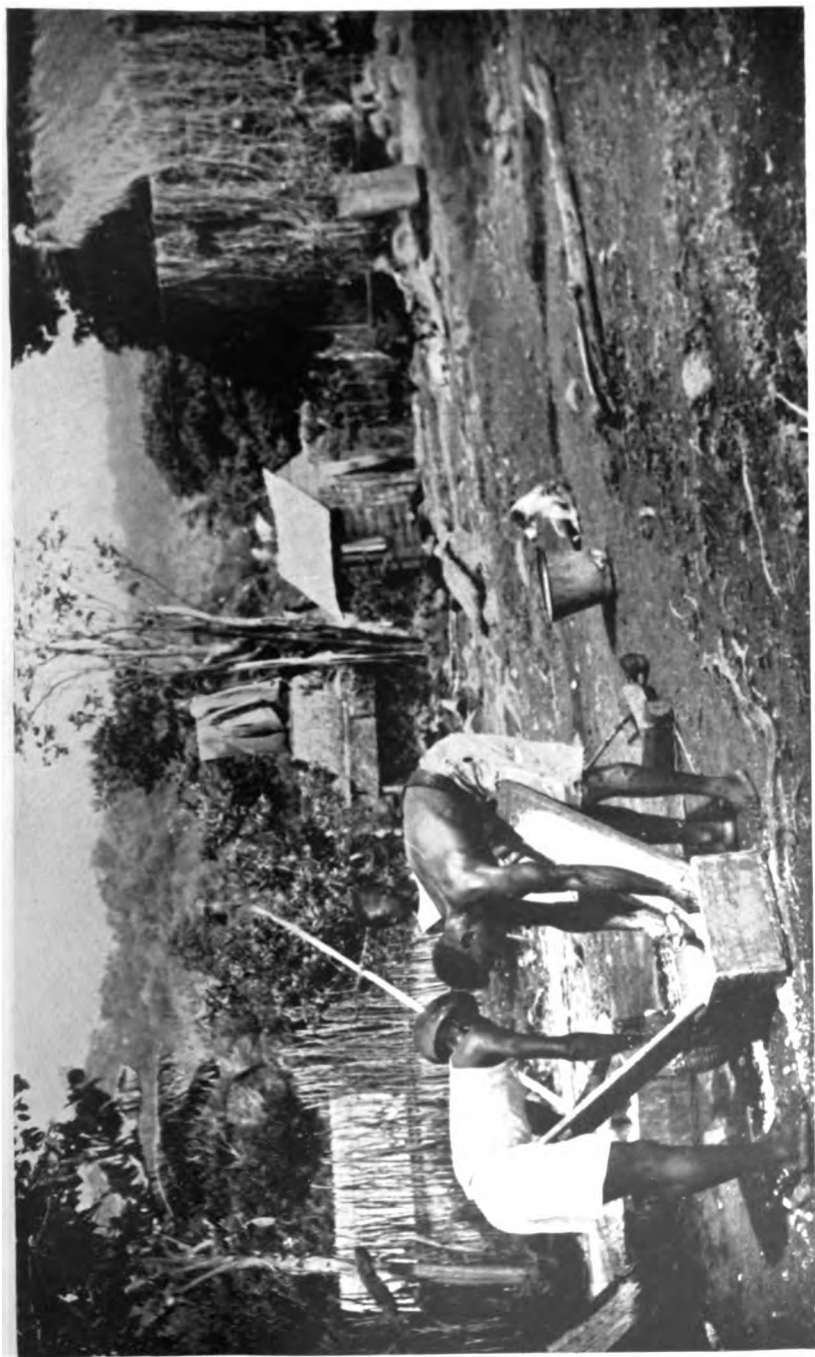
The draft Buildings Bye-Law for the town of Castries drawn up by the Central Housing Authority on the advice of the Town Planning Adviser to the Development and Welfare Organisation, West Indies, was passed by the Castries Town Board and approved by the Governor.

Vide Bouteille Housing Scheme

In accordance with the proposed town planning scheme for Castries and surroundings, an area of Vide Bouteille estate containing approximately 35 acres was compulsorily acquired by Government for the establishment of a housing scheme. This scheme is designed to relieve the slum areas of Castries and to make house plots available for the greater part of the former residents in the burnt area of Castries, over 50 per cent of whom cannot be rehoused in the new town plan. The sum of \$35,145 from the surplus balances of the Colony has been made available for the purchase of land, the clearing of the site and the establishment of main roads and access roads in the area. The proposed scheme makes provision for about 350 house plots, sites for shops, school building and a playing field, with an overall density of nine houses to the acre. The scheme has been divided into two sections, one providing for building sites and the other providing for a small Government housing scheme of 40 houses, 20 of which are to be constructed in timber and 20 in concrete or hollow clay bricks.

Development of Vigie Peninsula

The Government of St. Lucia has leased the Vigie Peninsula from the War Office for a period of 30 years with the option of a renewal for another



GRATING MANIOC (CASSAVA)



VIEUX FORT LAND DEVELOPMENT SCHEME



THE FISH POND AT UNION EXPERIMENTAL STATION
Department of Agriculture



CENTRAL FARM AND ADJOINING LARGE SCALE
CULTIVATION AT VIEUX FORT

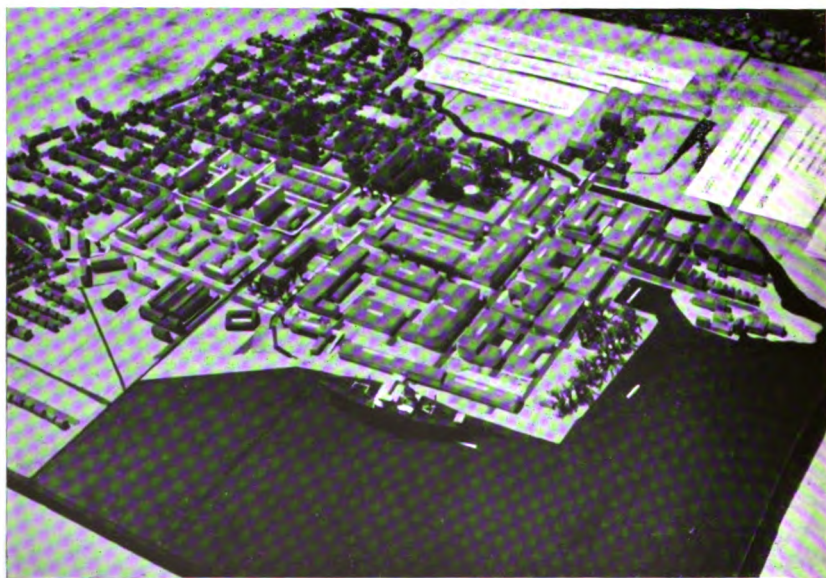


CASTRIES HEALTH CENTRE



With acknowledgments to Oliver Cadet

CASTRIES TOWN AND HARBOUR BEFORE THE FIRE



With acknowledgments to Curtis L. N. Knight

CASTRIES: SCALE MODEL SHOWING NEW PLANNING PROPOSALS

This photograph, which appeared in the Report for 1947, has been reproduced again because of its relevance to the discussions on the Castries plan in this Report. Photographs of the destruction caused by the fire are shown in the Report for 1947

30 years. It is intended to develop Vigie as a housing area principally for the middle and highest income groups and the Central Housing Authority has been asked to control and administer the area. All available housing space at Vigie is at present occupied by the victims of the recent fire. Pending the taking over of control by the Central Authority the peninsula is under the supervision of a Provisional Commissioner. The Authority has nevertheless prepared a scheme for the area which was approved by the Governor-in-Council on 30th September.

Castries Fire and Development

Approximately 32 acres of the town of Castries comprising the main commercial and warehouse sections were destroyed by fire on the night of 19th-20th June. Approximately 522 residential buildings were destroyed, involving 809 families comprising nearly 2,500 persons.

Immediately after the fire joint-meetings between the chairman and the secretary of the Housing Authority in St. Vincent and the St. Lucia authority were held to make short- and long-term plans for the burnt area. At a joint-meeting between the Castries Town Board and the Authority on 24th June recommendations were subsequently confirmed by the two bodies and forwarded to Government. As a measure of relief temporary structures for commercial, warehouse and office use, were permitted within the burnt area of the town. It was also unanimously recommended by both bodies that a new town planning scheme for the whole town should be prepared as soon as possible, laying down new proposals for traffic and street improvements, zoning, re-housing and including considerations for adequate water and sewerage systems. It was also recommended that the new plan should be produced within a minimum period of time in order that return to normal conditions might be delayed as little as possible, and that it should include proposals for boundaries of greater Castries as some of the worst slum areas were just outside the present town limits. It was also agreed that no permanent buildings were to be allowed within the burnt area until a scheme was approved. It was also recommended that the town planning scheme should also include the immediate development of Vide Bouteille as a housing area and as soon as the plan was approved its execution should be entrusted to a commissioner with the necessary technical staff.

Re-planning of the area was entrusted to Mr. John C. Rose, A.R.I.B.A., A.Dip. (Executive Architect, Windward Islands), and Mr. Anthony C. Lewis, A.R.I.B.A., B.Arch., M.Sc., C.P. (Associated Architect), who submitted a town plan for consideration by the Authorities concerned. This new town plan was completed by the Architects and exhibited to the public on 1st September, 1948.

The plan was adopted in principle by the various public bodies.

Towns and Villages

Development and Welfare Scheme D156/17 approved by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for five years in 1942 made available the sum of \$6,670 for the purchase of land and the extension of the village of Canaries. Due to the lack of technical staff the scheme was delayed. Since the

establishment of the Central Authority the scheme has been revised and the application renewed.

Anti-Malarial Measures Castries District

Acting on the Malariologist's report on control measures for Vigie-Vide Bouteille area, the Engineering Assistant to the Windward and Leeward Islands Public Health Engineering Unit took steps for permanent malarial control measures in the area. Up to the end of the year the La Clery Stream had been satisfactorily straightened despite the rainy weather. It is hoped that the entire work will be completed during the first half of 1949.

SOCIAL WELFARE

The resignation of the Social Welfare Officer in October, 1947, left the Department short staffed. The Probation Officer and the Social Welfare Adviser to the Governor, who spent much time in the Colony, had to carry on with the work of the Department.

Groups were organised in Castries and in the Out-Districts and training days were held for the leaders.

The Social Welfare Adviser and the Probation Officer reviewed the circumstances of almost a thousand recipients of out-door relief throughout the Colony. There were also some improvements in the system of administering the relief prior to the setting up of Local Case Committees.

A survey of homeless people in Castries was undertaken with a view to providing a night shelter.

In an attempt to combat delinquency in Castries a building was obtained as a club for wayward boys.

The Department undertook the distribution of food and clothing to fire victims and assisted in their rehabilitation.

The social welfare trainee who returned to the Colony after completing a two-year course in colonial administration and the social sciences at London University was appointed Social Welfare Officer.

Chapter 8: Legislation

Twenty-one Ordinances were passed and 50 Statutory Rules and Orders were made during 1948. Most of these Ordinances and Statutory Rules and Orders comprise minor amendments to existing legislation and covered matters of purely local importance.

The following are of wider interest and call for special mention:

The Trade Unions and Trade Disputes Ordinance, No. 4 of 1948, provided for the registration and proper management of trade unions generally. The provisions of this Ordinance are in general accord with English law.

The Income Tax Ordinance, No. 8 of 1948, which came into force on 15th January, 1948, was principally a consolidation of 10 Ordinances which it repeals. The new Ordinance increased the existing rates of income tax and made income derived outside the Colony liable to tax even when not

received in the Colony. At the same time it made provision for double taxation relief.

The Emergency Powers (Castries Fire) Ordinance, 1948, came into force on 23rd June, 1948, and continued in force until 31st December, 1948. It was passed to meet the state of emergency created by the Castries fire of 19th-20th June and empowered the Governor-in-Council to make regulations necessary or expedient for securing the safety, maintaining public order and providing and maintaining supplies and services essential to the life of the community.

The Hotels Aid Ordinance, No. 17 of 1948, provided for the duty-free importation of building materials and equipment to be used for the purpose of erecting or extending hotels in the Colony. In the Ordinance "hotel" is defined as any building containing, or intending to contain when complete, not less than 20 bedrooms for the accommodation of guests. This Ordinance is basically similar to those passed in Jamaica and in St. Vincent.

The Legislative Council (Election Petition) Rules, 1948, provide the procedure for the filing and trying of petitions arising out of disputed election results.

The Factories Regulation, 1948, lays down precautions required in so far as the fencing of machinery is concerned, provisions regarding safe means of access, fire warnings, fire escapes, emergency exits, etc.; in addition provisions are made covering sanitary conditions, overcrowding, air circulation, lighting and drainage. Restrictions are imposed on the employment of women and of boys under 16 years of age.

The Emergency Powers (Castries Fire) Regulations flow from the Emergency Powers (Castries Fire) Ordinance, and were passed to meet circumstances which arose at the time.

The Buildings Bye-Law, 1948, brings up to date the Buildings Bye-Law of the town of Castries and includes modern requirements such as open spaces around buildings, specifications as to size of rooms, windows, ventilation, erections projecting over footways, etc.

The Air Navigation (Investigation of Accidents) Regulations, 1948, lays down the procedure to be employed as to the notification and investigation of accidents in which aircraft are involved.

Finally, it may be noted that by resolution of the Legislative Council passed on 23rd December, the Rent Restriction Ordinance, 1943, was continued in force up to 31st December, 1948.

Chapter 9: Justice, Police and Prisons

JUSTICE

It is convenient to begin a review of the law of St. Lucia from its capitulation to General Grinfield on 22nd June, 1803, and the assurance to the inhabitants by Proclamation that they should continue in the enjoyment of their rights in accordance with the laws which existed immediately prior to the cession. The proclamation of 1803 continued, therefore, as the

law of the Colony, at least in civil matters, the law and ordinances of the French monarchy.

In 1876 owing to uncertainty concerning the law in civil matters, the Civil Code Ordinance was passed and by 1879 the Civil Code and Code of Civil Procedure were produced based on the ancient law of the island with such amendments as the circumstances of the time required.

Broadly speaking, the law relating to commercial matters is based on principles of English law. The commercial law was compiled in 1916 into the Commercial Code, which follows faithfully the lines of existing English statutes, and in that year also statutes of St. Lucia were revised and collected into two volumes called the Revised Ordinances of St. Lucia, 1916. Subordinate legislation was collected in a separate volume called Revised Rules and Orders, 1916. It was not till 1920 that the Criminal Code (Law and Procedure) made its appearance.

Since 1916 new laws, whether by way of amendment to the codes or otherwise, have been published in annual volumes of the Ordinances and Statutory Rules and Orders of St. Lucia.

For the administration of justice the island has been divided into three Judicial Districts. These District Courts of Judicature are presided over by Magistrates who exercise a summary jurisdiction in civil and criminal matters.

The present Superior Court was constituted by the Leeward Islands and Windward Islands (Courts) Order in Council, 1939, what was formerly the Royal Court becoming a circuit of the Supreme Court of the Windward Islands and Leeward Islands. The Court has unlimited original jurisdiction in all civil or criminal matters, and Admiralty jurisdiction within the meaning and intent of the Colonial Courts of Admiralty Act, 1890, and an appellate jurisdiction over the District Courts. In civil matters which are exclusively assigned to the District Courts, the Supreme Court has no original jurisdiction.

The Windward Islands and Leeward Islands Court of Appeal hears appeals from the Supreme Court in civil and criminal matters in accordance with the rules contained in Statutory Rules and Orders 67 of 1940 as amended. Normally, at least three judges constitute the Court of Appeal, but the rules prescribe classes of appeals to be determined by two judges. The classes so far prescribed are contained in the (Amendment) Rules of 1941, S.R. & O. 1941, No. 36.

The West Indian Court of Appeal is an alternative Court of Appeal in certain matters.

In the First District Court during 1948, 1,818 summary cases were heard, resulting in 1,262 convictions, 567 acquittals (including cases withdrawn). The following sentences were imposed (figures include juveniles): 849 were fined, 46 whipped and 128 imprisoned. Fifty-eight juvenile offenders, all males, came before the Court. In the same Court 236 cases were heard in the civil jurisdiction, six inquests as to death, 17 informations in lunacy. Praedial larceny accounted for 65 cases.

In the Second District Court eight persons were charged indictably and committed for trial to the Supreme Court. There were 513 cases heard as compared with 458 in 1947, involving 559 persons and resulting in 346

convictions, and 215 acquittals (including cases withdrawn). Sixteen juveniles were dealt with compared with 18 in 1947. There were 38 civil cases, four inquests as to deaths and two adjudications of lunacy.

The third District Court heard 434 cases involving 525 persons and resulting in 306 convictions and 219 acquittals (including cases withdrawn). Nineteen juvenile offenders appeared before the court.

In the Supreme Court there were 14 civil cases, 46 criminal cases and five appeals. There were no appeals before the West Indian Court of Appeal.

POLICE

The establishment of the Force, as approved for 1948, was one Senior Superintendent of Police, one Superintendent of Police, one Assistant Superintendent of Police, one sergeant major, one bandmaster and 171 other ranks.

The posts of Senior Superintendent of Police and Assistant Superintendent of Police remained vacant up to 12th and 29th September, 1948, respectively.

The Force was allocated to Castries (Headquarters) and the following police stations: Vieux Fort, Soufrière, Dennery, Choiseul, Laborie, Anse-la-Raye, Canaries, Micoud, Gros Islet and La Caye.

In addition to normal police duties the Force was responsible for fire brigades, immigration, traffic and licensing, weights and measures and film censorship.

The Senior Superintendent of Police relinquished command of the Royal Gaol, on the establishment of a separate Prisons Department, early in July, 1948.

The standard of recruitment continued to depreciate, resignations of fairly senior other ranks continued. This, coupled with a shortage of officers and general discontent, led to a serious decline of morale and discipline which reached its peak at the time of the Castries fire.

On 31st December, 1948, the strength of the Force was 144 n.c.o.s and constables; of these 57 had two years' service, 49 had seven years' service and only 38 had over seven years' service.

His Honour Mr. Justice Crane, Judge of the Supreme Court, was appointed to hold an enquiry into the causes and circumstances of the Castries fire, and Brigadier A. S. Mavrogordato, O.B.E., was appointed to enquire into the general discipline and conduct of the Police Force prior to and during the Castries fire. These reports have since been published.

As a result of recommendations made in these reports, the work of reorganising the Police Force and Fire Brigade was put in hand. The programme provides for the complete reorganisation of police administration, C.I.D., fire brigades, immigration, traffic and licensing and is intended to bring the service up to a standard reasonably comparable with other like Forces. The programme is being implemented as rapidly as possible.

On the breakdown of the local Force, the Governments of other British

Caribbean Colonies rendered invaluable service by sending officers and police detachments to help restore normal conditions and to assist in training. Special mention in this connection should be made of the assistance rendered by Trinidad, Grenada, Dominica and St. Vincent.

Transport, previously a serious problem, has been improved; the acquisition of two Ford pick-ups and a Chevrolet station wagon eased the situation and cut expenses considerably.

Police Buildings. There has been a lack of essential maintenance over a prolonged period.

The question of construction of police buildings at Dennery and Micoud is in the planning stage. Buildings to accommodate Fire Brigades are included in the Colony's rebuilding programme. The question of extending buildings to meet the present and future needs of Headquarters and the Police Training School is also being considered.

Fire Brigade. Following the Castries fire, one station sergeant, two lance corporals and 12 constables were posted to the Fire Brigade for full-time duty and a programme of fire training was begun.

Orders for fire-fighting apparatus have been placed in London and steps taken throughout the Colony to minimise fire risks in Government and public buildings and places of entertainment.

The Police Band consisting of a bandmaster, three bandsmen and 12 band cadets has performed at all official functions in Castries throughout the year and at many functions in the out-districts. The band has been much appreciated by all classes of the population.

Crime Statistics. Crime figures for 1948 show a slight decrease over 1947, the totals being 1,870 and 2,216 respectively. Indictable cases increased by 30 from 236 in 1947 to 266 in 1948. The great majority of these cases are housebreaking and larceny. The fire in Castries in June, 1948, was responsible for an increase in larceny during that year. Housebreaking is most common around the outskirts of Castries in the poorer areas, where methods of securing doors and windows are somewhat primitive and badly effected. The poor people continue to rob the poor, not only in town areas but also in rural districts. The habit of robbing crops, often before they are ripe, occurs with great frequency and is most discouraging to garden cultivators. Many small-holdings have been abandoned in consequence.

Summary or non-indictable cases decreased from 1,980 in 1947 to 1,604 in 1948.

There were no murders or crimes of particular interest in 1948.

General crime figures are almost parallel for both 1947 and 1948. In 1947 74.6 per cent and in 1948 73.9 per cent were concluded. Cases not concluded are those left "under investigation" or "closed undetected". A proportion of these are cleared up later. The most important are house, shop and kitchen breaking which form the largest number of unsolved cases.

The number of persons concerned in cases in 1948 was 1,800—1,352 males, and 448 females, of these 938 males and 253 females were arrested and 414 males and 195 females were summoned.

	1948		1947	
(a) Convicted	945 males	307 females	1,053 males	423 females
(b) Acquitted	130 "	38 "	118 "	46 "
(c) Withdrawn by Police.	211 "	80 "	109 "	50 "
(d) Withdrawn by Complainant	16 "	4 "	17 "	20 "
(e) Pending trial	50 "	19 "	102 "	21 "
TOTAL	1,352	448	1,399	560

Included among persons convicted are juveniles and young persons in following age groups:

	Age: 6/8	8/10	10/12	12/14	14/16	16/18	18/21	TOTAL
1948.	nil	2	9	12	52	68	212	365
1947.	2	4	32	52	89	96	293	568

There was a marked decrease in juvenile offenders in 1948, owing partly to the various measures adopted by the Social Welfare Officer and also to the removal of families from congested areas of the town to Vigie and the Morne and to the considerable help given them by the Castries Fire Relief Committee.

Traffic Cases. Traffic accident cases showed a marked increase despite a strong tendency on the part of owners and drivers to refrain from reporting such incidents.

Of a total of 96 traffic cases reported and prosecuted, convictions were obtained in 64, 29 cases were withdrawn and the balance were dismissed. These figures included 20 road accident cases.

The number of motor vehicles registered in the Colony on 31st December, 1948, was 284.

Immigration. Immigration duties have been carried out at the Port of Castries, Vigie Air Port and Vieux Fort. The issuing of new passports has been undertaken since 1st October, 1947.

During the year, 598 police permits (in lieu of passports for travel in the British West Indies), 835 new passports and 335 exit permits for other countries were issued, and 2,338 passports and permits were endorsed. Four hundred and fifty certificates of character were issued.

Miscellaneous. The Police act as both criminal and civil process servers. In 1948, 6,338 criminal and 450 civil summonses were received; 30 warrants of arrest, 291 warrants of commitment and 228 search warrants were dealt with; three warrants of arrest and 25 warrants of commitment were outstanding at the end of the year.

Two hundred and thirteen weights and measures were inspected and stamped for the first time and 664 verified.

The following licences were issued at Police Headquarters: driving 436; vehicle 284; gun 275; radio 103; bicycle 253; butchers 214. At Out-stations 361 canoe licences were issued; those in Castries area are dealt with by the Harbour Master.

PRISONS

A Prisons Conference was held in Barbados in May under the chairmanship of Mr. N. R. Hilton, a retired Director of Prisons in the United Kingdom, with the object of improving prison conditions and administration. Steps were taken to put into effect some of the changes recommended at the Conference. Prisons, which were previously under the direction of the Senior Superintendent of Police, passed under the administrative control of the Keeper of the Royal Gaol, whose title for purposes of uniformity with other Colonies has been changed to Superintendent of Prisons. The working staff consists of one chief officer, 20 male officers for the male prison and a matron and assistant matron in charge of the female side. Accommodation and staff in the male prison has been taxed during the past few months by a great increase in the number of arrests made for looting after the Castries Fire. The overcrowded condition in the male prison made it necessary for 28 long-term prisoners to be transferred to the prison in the neighbouring island of Barbados.

For the first time two male officers were sent for a short course of training with favourable results.

An important step was made in abolishing stone-quarrying and breaking and the introduction instead of prison farm cultivation on 12 acres of land at La Toc under the direction of the Department of Agriculture. It is hoped that this scheme, apart from providing ground provisions and vegetables for use in the prison's kitchens, will encourage agricultural pursuits. An average of 40 prisoners work on this small farm. Vocational training was continued under trade officers qualified to teach carpentry, boot-making, tailoring and bread-making. During 1948, 93,725 lb. of bread and 5,510 lb. of cocoa were made and supplied to Government institutions. Two hundred and ninety-six coffins were made for burial of paupers, and 320 pairs of boots were repaired for Government institutions. The Prison, immediately after the fire, contributed its share in relief work by preparing large quantities of food for the communal feeding of persons rendered destitute by the fire.

The value of the manufacturing work done was \$22,249 and the expenditure on materials \$14,651, the profit of \$7,598 being carried to the Colony's General Revenue. Total expenditure for the year amounted to \$29,689, and the annual cost of maintenance of a prisoner was \$121.60.

On 31st December, 1948, 106 prisoners were serving sentence as follows: life imprisonment, one male; 10 years, one male; 7 years, 2 males; 5 years, 3 males; 4 years, one male and one female; 3 years, 10 males and 2 females; 2 years, 11 males and one female; 18 months, 3 males; 15 months, one female; 12 months, 18 males and 1 female; 9 months and under, 34 males and 6 females. Seven males on remand and four females committed to Grand Sessions were awaiting trial.

No executions took place during 1948. There were three escapes during the year; two of the men were captured the following day and the third remained at large for 30 days. There was a marked decline in breaches of prison discipline; 85 males and four females were punished, of these 18

were cautioned and the remainder received various punishments, ranging from solitary confinement and punishment diets to being deprived of recreation.

The Prison Medical Officer paid 288 visits to the Prison and found that the prisoners' health was good and that diet was maintained at normal standards. With the increased use of green vegetables no illness due to faulty diet was reported and the majority of the prisoners put on weight. Dental treatment, when necessary, was provided at the Castries Health Centre. Forty-six males and four females were admitted to the Hospital, 1,653 males and 38 females were prescribed for and returned to work, while 192 males and six females were prescribed for and excused from work.

Chapter 10: Public Utilities and Public Works

CASTRIES WATER SUPPLY

The town of Castries, including a few areas outside the municipal limits, is served by pipe-borne water, the supply being administered by the Castries Town Board.

The supply of a quarter million gallons per day capacity originates from surface run-off from a catchment area of about 2,000 acres, part of which flows by gravity through steel and asbestos cement pipes and part is pumped by oil-engine-driven centrifugal pumps.

The treatment given is plain sedimentation in a 450,000-gallon reservoir. This also provides storage, slow sand filtration, and sterilisation by the chloramine process. The water then passes to a service reservoir of 300,000-gallon capacity, whence it flows through mains to the town.

In the distribution area the population is served by public street stand pipes and private water services, for which a general water rate in respect of all premises is imposed, and a water supply rate in respect of those premises having private supplies. A few industrial supplies are metered, and water is also supplied to shipping by meter. Street hydrants provide water for fire-fighting.

A scheme for the extension of the supply is in progress, material for which is already arriving from the United Kingdom. The general plan is to develop both the gravity and the pumped supplies to a capacity of approximately 800,000 gallons per day, substituting electricity for diesel power, to erect a purification plant of a modern type to accommodate coagulating tanks, gravity filters, chloramine and lime-dosing plant, and to distribute to a larger area than at present in two zones, a low-level to include most of the present municipal area, and a high-level to include the higher areas outside the present municipal limits.

CASTRIES ELECTRICITY

The station which was built in 1933 had originally two Belliss & Morcom General Electric Co. alternator sets of 36 kw 416 volts 3 phase 50 cycles

running at 500 r.p.m.; a 72 kw set of the same make was installed in 1938. One of the 36 kw sets was replaced by a 103.5 kw set in 1945, and the second 36 kw set was replaced by a further 103.5 kw set in May, 1947.

Very little extension of the feed or network was undertaken during the year as most of the areas were adequately served by the existing mains which cover the town, Vigie, Morne Fortuné, La Toc, and the whole of the built-up area to the east of the town.

The number of consumers has not shown the decrease expected due to the Fire as many new consumers were added as soon as materials became available:

Lighting consumers	.	.	649
Domestic	„	.	68
Industrial	„	.	16

The current sold to consumers during 1948 cannot be given as all records were lost. The current sold to the town for street lighting is estimated at 28,000 units.

The whole plant is in a satisfactory state of repair and is still operating perfectly.

Apart from the village of Anse-la-Raye, for which an electricity supply system is in process of inauguration, the town of Soufrière is the only other district of the island provided with electricity for general consumption. The Soufrière undertaking is in the hands of the Soufrière Electricity Supply Co., Ltd., and franchise is secured for the company by the Electricity Supply of Soufrière Ordinance, 1939. The anse-la-Raye system which commenced operation in December, 1946, is in the first instance to be controlled by Government through the non-statutory Village Improvement Committee, and an ordinance is being drawn up on the lines of the Soufrière Ordinance which will enable power to be transferred to a local authority under the provisions of the New Local Authorities Ordinance. A conference on rural electrification, held at Vieux Fort, was attended by members of the local authorities concerned.

PUBLIC WORKS

During the years 1946 to 1948 amounts authorised for expenditure on public works were:

	1946	1947	1948
Public Works Extraordinary	\$132,240.00	\$78,768.00	\$33,595.35
Public Works Annually			
Recurrent	103,464.00	173,184.00	132,106.00

The following works were scheduled for execution during the year:

(a) *Roads.* The Castries-Dennery road on the hillside just above Dennery Village was reconstructed and very bad collapsed sections were repaired at various points.

(b) *Quarters for Steward of Government House.* Work on this building was carried out.

(c) *Police Training School.* The estimated amount for this work was

exceeded due to the additions made to the original plan consequent on the Castries fire. The building was completed before the end of the year.

(d) *Maintenance and Building.* Repairs were effected to all the main roads throughout the island. The most outstanding being in Castries-Barre-de-l'Isle and the Castries-Gros Islet roads, which were much improved.

General maintenance, improvement and repairs to all second class and unclassified roads were carried out, principally the Waterworks, Cul-de-Sac-Anse-la-Raye, Soufrière-Anse-la-Raye and Volet-Mahaut roads. Widening of the first section of the Marchand road, for which a special warrant of \$1,680 was issued, was carried on to the end of the year.

Work on the new nurses' quarters, Victoria Hospital, and the new sanitary arrangements at the Mental Home was satisfactorily carried out.

Colonial Development and Welfare Schemes

Work was done on several schemes during the year; Vigie Airport was almost completed by the end of the year; a scheme for building a park at Vieux Fort to cost \$2,400 was finished and so was the District Administrative Centre building at Vieux Fort.

The Micoud water supply scheme, approved in 1943, was finished at the end of the year.

Chapter II: Communications

SHIPPING

During the war the volume of shipping showed a marked decrease but the signs of recovery in 1947 were maintained in 1948. During the year the net tonnage of all shipping making use of the Port of Castries was 495,938, or an increase of 60,557 tons over 1947 and twice as much as the 1946 figure. The total number of ships calling at Castries was 752, of these 228 were steamers with a total tonnage of 392,060; sailing vessels numbered 444, an increase over the figure of 367 in 1947. Statistics indicate that the dependence upon sailing vessels which played such a vital part in maintaining communications during the war still remains. Sea-borne passengers showed a marked increase on previous years.

AIR

The Colony is served by two regular air services, British West Indian Airways and Pan-American Airways. B.W.I.A. maintains a thrice-weekly service, and makes use of the Vigie Airport which is only $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles from Castries. Periodic calls by K.L.M. airline were made. Four hundred and fifty-three aircraft were entered. P.A.A. calls at Beane Field, the U.S. Air Force Base at the south of the island which forms a link in the Pan-American Airway Caribbean Service.

RAILWAYS

There are no railways or tramways in the Colony.

COASTAL SERVICES

The Government subsidises the carriage of passengers and mail coast-wise from Castries to Soufrière and further south to Vieux Fort by launch. The coastal service by launches showed a marked improvement.

ROADS

Road transportation which forms the main communication between the east-coast villages and the southern part of the island increased greatly and nearly all out-districts are now connected by a daily service with Castries and intermediate towns and villages. The mail service by road for the easterly and southern districts continues.

The major road project of 1948 was the continuation of the construction of the Dennery-Vieux Fort road by Messrs. Harriman & Co. of Trinidad under contract with Government for the sum of \$275,244.

POSTS

Air Mail. The British International Airways Ltd. maintained an efficient service connecting the British West Indian islands from Jamaica to Trinidad, with the exception of Dominica and St. Vincent, three times a week. The postage is 2½d. per half-ounce for terminal mails to the places served by the company. British International Airways Ltd. took over from the British West Indian Airways in October, 1947.

Air mails are also conveyed by Pan American Airways to Beane Field, Vieux Fort; they continued their service to St. Lucia during the year.

Mails to other parts of the world are forwarded via Trinidad.

Greater use is being made of the air mail facilities with a correspondingly increased sale of stamps.

Frequent chartered flights of the Grumman Plane connect St. Vincent and Dominica with St. Lucia.

Surface Mail. Surface mails from the United Kingdom, Europe, Canada, and the United States of America were received by steamers of the Harrison Line, Canadian National Steamships, and the Alcoa Steamship Company. Mails were despatched to the destinations aforementioned by these same steamers and via Barbados by M.V. *Lady Joy* and the many schooners that ply between these islands.

French craft ply between Martinique and this island and between Martinique and French Guiana via the southern islands.

Inland mail. Inland communication between different parts of the island is by means of road or coastal launch services. Government pays a subsidy for the carriage of mails, passengers and cargo on both routes. The service (coastwise) from Soufrière to Castries and return via Anse-la-Rayé and Canaries was daily except Wednesdays, Sundays and bank holidays. The service (coastwise) to Choiseul, Laborie and Vieux Fort was three times a week. The service (overland) from Vieux Fort to Castries and return via Micoud, Patience and Dennery was four times a week. The overland route from Vieux Fort is approximately 40 miles and runs from

Castries in a southerly direction across the island from west to east to Dennery turning south to Vieux Fort along the coast.

Stamps. The St. Lucia Silver Wedding commemorative stamps, 1d. and £1 denominations, were placed on sale at all post offices and stamp vendors' premises on 26th November, 1948. The period of sale of these stamps was for three months, or until stocks are exhausted, whichever is the earlier. During the period the special stamps were on sale, the corresponding denominations in the existing series were withdrawn from sale.

General. The Castries fire on 19th-20th June destroyed the General Post Office building. Much of the stores and equipment and most of the parcels then on hand were however saved. No letters or stamps were lost. Alternative accommodation was found and business started as usual by noon on the following day.

The mercantile community is making greater use of the parcel post section particularly, and since the fire the work at the Post Office has increased tremendously.

Telegraph and Radio. The telegraph service was carried out by Cable and Wireless (West Indies) Ltd. The wireless telephone service was available between Castries and the United Kingdom, Canada and the British West Indian islands, and the United States of America from December, 1947.

Telephone. The telephone system owned and maintained by Government operates 166½ miles of trunk lines; 317 telephones were in service during the year.

Chapter 12: Miscellaneous

The main preoccupation of the Colony in the latter half of the year was the Castries Fire of 19th and 20th June, 1948. This has been described as the greatest calamity to befall a Colony of its size and resources in so short a space of time. In twelve hours four-fifths of the capital town was completely obliterated by fire.

The spectacle of gaunt walls and twisted girders, standing stark and lifeless, would be familiar to those who emerged from the agony of war and destruction. The fire was a major catastrophe in West Indian history.

The alarm of a fire which had started in a tailor's shop in the north-easterly part of "up-town" was given at 8 o'clock on Saturday evening, 19th June. Fanned by a strong breeze, the flames swept out of control, mostly in a south-westerly direction where the fire spent itself at the wharves. The assistance was obtained of a fire-fighting squad of the United States Air Force stationed at the U.S. Base, Beane Field, but in spite of their prompt arrival, the conflagration had assumed proportions too great for normal combating methods.

The entire commercial section of the town was gutted, and the following Government buildings lost: Administration, Customs, Treasury, Audit, Post Office, Executive Architect, Education, Printery, Supreme Court and Magistrate's Court, Registry, Labour, Controller of Supplies and the Castries Town Board, including warehouses.

All the principal mercantile houses suffered loss, including Barclays Bank (D.C. & O.), Cable & Wireless (West Indies) Ltd., and the Voice Publishing Co. Irreparable damage was done to Government files and records and the Colony's archives, which at the time were being indexed and catalogued. A great blow was the loss of the Carnegie Library, which was reputed to have the best reference section in the British West Indies, the Gramophone Library, and an important collection of historical documents, and antiques belonging to Mr. Thomas Ferguson, the local historian and antiquarian.

Apart from a few small shops on the outskirts of the town, all stores and their contents were destroyed, and commercial life came to a standstill for a week. Fortunately the electric power station and telephone exchange escaped damage. The Government Departments which were saved were the Police, Agricultural, Public Works, Medical and the Central Housing Authority. By great efforts, the buildings of St. Mary's College, St. Joseph's Convent, the Roman Catholic Church, all within the path of the fire, were saved. No school buildings were destroyed.

Immediately after the news of the catastrophe and summons for aid were flashed to the outside world, help began to come in from the neighbouring islands. Among the first arrivals were the Red Cross and police detachments from Trinidad, Grenada and St. Vincent. Due to the prompt arrival of H.M.S. *Sparrow* and police squads from the islands named, widespread looting was checked and security measures put into effect.

It was discovered that over 500 houses were destroyed and 809 families, comprising 1,312 adults and 981 children, or a total of 2,293 persons, were rendered homeless. Fortunately there was no loss of life, and the morale of the victims won high praise. The following day Government took measures for the relief of distress and emergency relief committees were set up to deal with the distribution of food, clothing, household effects and comforts, together with the provision of temporary housing. The military barracks at Vigie and the Morne situated two miles from the devastated area, provided temporary shelter.

At the meeting of the Legislative Council held on 23rd June, 1948, the Emergency Powers (Castries) Fire Bill was enacted, and this Ordinance conferred on the Governor-in-Council powers to meet the state of emergency, and specifically to maintain public order, supplies and services essential to the life of the community, to take possession or control of property or undertaking, regulate building operations and materials and suspend the obligations of banks. A proclamation declaring a moratorium of payments by the bank for seven days was issued. The contents of the safe deposit at the bank were intact.

During the time that the ruins still smouldered emergency repairs to electric power lines were undertaken, the water supply system was started, and main telephonic communication was resumed by the installation of a sub-exchange on the northern outskirts of the town. The days after the fire were marked by a steady and speedy flow of relief cargoes which arrived by steamers, motor vessels, sailing craft and planes. The neighbouring Colonies showed a generosity not previously known and without exception launched vigorous public appeals for money and clothing. His

Majesty's Government contributed \$168,000 as a free grant to relieve immediate distress. In London, the West India Committee started a public subscription and its list was still open at the end of 1948.

His Excellency the Governor of the Windward Islands, under the Commissions of Enquiry Ordinance, appointed a Commission of Enquiry into the "causes and circumstances of the fire" on 28th June, 1948, with the following terms of reference:

To investigate

- "(a) The origin and cause of the fire,
- (b) the reasons for the spread of fire to the greater part of the town,
- (c) the measures taken to combat the fire, and
- (d) the adequacy of the available fire-fighting devices and resources."

The Commission was issued to His Honour Mr. Justice A. V. Crane, LL.B., to conduct a public inquiry. His Report was published on 24th July, 1948. He found that the reasons for the spread of the fire to the greater part of the town were:

- (a) The want of training, practice in, knowledge and experience of fire-fighting on the part of the Brigade personnel from the head downwards;
- (b) the complete absence of organisation and discipline of the Brigade personnel;
- (c) the failure of the Brigade personnel to employ all its available water power at the earliest stage of the fire, and later to concentrate on extinguishing the fire when it reached Corporation Street;
- (d) the inadequacy of the existing equipment for putting out a large fire, and
- (e) the absence of sufficient water pressure from the Town Board mains.

On 7th July, 1948, the Castries Fire Relief Fund Committee was constituted, its members represented every sphere of interest in the Castries area, and it had the following terms of reference:

"To invite and investigate all claims for relief of distress by loss of moveable or immoveable property caused by the Castries Fire on the 19th day of June 1948, and to make recommendations with regard to the distribution of grant or loan funds subscribed or made available to the Castries Fire Relief Fund from all sources having regard to:

- (a) the sources of individual claimants and their capacity for self-rehabilitation;
- (b) the extent of loss suffered by individual claimants."

This Committee obtained valuable statistics as to the extent of loss and confirmed earlier estimates of the value of property destroyed as being over \$9,600,000. The sum of \$446,040 was received as contributions to the Relief Fund up to the end of the year.

PART III

Chapter 1: Geography and Climate

ST. LUCIA is one of the curved chain of volcanic islands which comprise the Lesser Antilles. It is situated between the longitude limits $60^{\circ} 53'$ West and $61^{\circ} 05'$ West and the latitude limits $13^{\circ} 43'$ North and $14^{\circ} 07'$ North. It lies approximately halfway between St. Vincent to the South and the French island of Martinique to the north. Its greatest length north to south is 27 miles; its greatest breadth 14 miles. The area, 233 square miles, is a little more than that of the Isle of Man.

The island is mountainous, the highest peak being Mt. Gimie (3,145 feet). The most spectacular mountains are the Gros Piton (2,619 feet) and the Petit Piton (2,461 feet), which are old volcanic forest clad cones rising sheer out of the sea near the town of Soufrière on the leeward coast. A few miles away in an ancient crater are dark-coloured, hot, bubbling sulphurous springs, an indication of the decadent volcanic activity of this district.

The mountains are intersected by numerous short rivers which have a regime corresponding to the wet (June–December) and comparatively dry seasons. In places, these rivers debouch into broad fertile and well cultivated valleys. The population of the Island is 69,091. Of this number, 20,085 live in towns and larger villages. The rest may be described as being a scattered rural population. The mountainous build and forested nature of the island have virtually restricted settlement to the coastal areas. The capital, Castries (population 7,056), is situated on a fine sheltered deep-water harbour (27 feet deep along quay-side at low water). Other settlements—Soufrière (3,219), Vieux Fort (2,747), Anse-la-Raye (1,524), Dennery (1,391), Micoud (1,141), as well as the smaller villages, Canaries, Laborie, Gros Islet, Choiseul—are all on the coast. The place names are largely of French origin. A corrupt French patois is still spoken especially amongst the rural population.

Motorable roads connect Castries with all the main centres of population except one which is accessible only by sea. There is regular coastal communication on the leeward side of the island; sloops and schooners also ply an inter-island trade from Castries. Modern conditions—especially the increasing use of oil-burning vessels—have led to the decline of the formerly important coaling industry in Castries. The harbour is still an important port of call for ocean-going liners and naval craft. Planes call three times weekly at the Castries airport. This inter-island air communication is supplemented by occasional visits from sea planes and amphibian aircraft.

Under the Anglo-American Agreement of 1940, sites for a seaplane base at Gros Islet Bay in the north and for a land aircraft base at Vieux Fort in the south, have been leased to U.S.A. The Vieux Fort base is a port of call for Pan-American Airways.

Racially the island has in the main a negro or mixed negro and white population. Small numbers of East Indian origin are found and there is a very small percentage of European descent.

The island has a mainly agricultural economy; many find work on the large estates and in the sugar factories, or else are peasant small-holders. Efforts are being made to market peasant agricultural produce on a co-operative basis.

CLIMATE

The island lies in latitudes where the N.E. Trade winds are almost a constant influence. The rainfall varies considerably, being greatest in the interior mountain region. The following are average yearly rainfall figures in inches, from six selected stations:

<i>Station and Locality</i>		<i>Length in Years of Period of Observation</i>	<i>Average Rainfall in inches</i>
Corinth	(North)	22	88.46
Castries	(W. Coast)	22	91.56
Vanard	(W. Interior)	18	107.03
Quillesse	(Central Interior)	9	158.01
Soufrière	(W. Coast)	22	96.35
Vieux Fort	(S. Coast)	19	70.04

The first four months of the year tend to be the driest. During the rest of the year there is much variation with an insufficiency of reliable data to draw sound conclusions. Reliable temperature figures are not available. Generally speaking it can be said that the temperature rarely exceeds 90° F. and seldom falls below 70° F. except in the higher altitudes. The daily range is small. At Morne Fortuné (Castries, 845 feet) wind percentage figures show that 90 per cent of the winds come from the east, east-north-east, and north-east, a constancy of direction which is reflected in the fact that Castries airport has a one-directional air strip.

Chapter 2: History

It has not been easy to find information regarding the early history of St. Lucia, especially the story of the Caribs, the aborigines who inhabited the island. In fact, so scant is the information, that the date of discovery is uncertain, for according to the known evidence of Columbus's voyages, he appears to have missed the island. Even the early days of colonisation leave blanks that it is impossible to fill. Archaeological finds in various parts of the island, though of no major significance, may later contribute to the knowledge that is still to be learnt of the warlike race that resisted the early attempts of European settlement.

As early as 1605, 67 Englishmen *en route* to Guiana, touched at St. Lucia and made an unsuccessful attempt to settle. The first recorded settlement was in 1638, when a few hundred men, under one Captain Judlee, with fortune seekers from Bermuda and St. Kitts, met with great opposition from the Caribs and were driven out in 1641. It is known that French settlers also staked claims in various parts of the Island, but the real conflict did not begin until the French and the English each laid inconclusive claims to the island, and from 1650 it became a bone of contention and war. The French claim was based upon the reputed grant of the island by Cardinal Richelieu, and the English contended that the island was granted to them by Charles I, who had given over sovereign rights to the Earl of Carlisle. At the time, the French had formed a French West Indian Company, headed by De L'Olive and Du Plessis.

In 1650 it would appear that Royal grants had fallen into disfavour. The French under the Governor of Martinique, Du Parquet, took the opportunity to befriend the still hostile Caribs, and having allayed their suspicions, started a massacre of this fast-disappearing race. In 1660 a peace treaty was made between the Caribs and the French. But quiet was not to last long, for in 1663, Francis, Lord Willoughby, who had a lease of the whole neighbouring island of Barbados contested the French claims to sovereignty. Lord Willoughby placed the plans for attacking St. Lucia in the hands of the adventurer Thomas Warner, who with one thousand men set sail from Barbados, and descended upon the island and overpowered the French. This was the first full-dress rehearsal to the internecine wars that rocked the island for over one hundred and fifty years. The settlers and soldiers under Thomas Warner gave in to disease and attacks by the Caribs. In 1667 the French again took the island, which was formally restored to them at the Peace Treaty of Breda.

In a brief exposition such as this it is not possible to give the full implications of this contest between the English and the French. The island had undoubted strategic advantages, with good harbours and sheltered waters, where ships could refit, repair and re-victual. The powers recognised the extraordinary advantages of some of the harbours and bays on the western coast, so much so that the island adopted as its motto, "*Statio haud malefida carinis*". In 1667 the island was made a dependency of the French island of Martinique. Between 1651 and 1793, there was a succession of thirty-six French Governors during those periods when it was held by the French.

It is believed that after the island was annexed to Martinique no settlers remained in St. Lucia. In 1718, the Regent d'Orleans made a grant of the Island to the Marshal d'Estrees who attempted to settle it once again. This further attempt at colonisation created resentment from the English, and in 1722 George I of England granted the island to the Duke of Montague. The Duke of Montague attempted to consolidate this grant by sending a strong party of colonists and soldiers under Captain Uring, to fight if possible the French at their base in Martinique. In 1723 the island was declared neutral, pending the decision of the interested parties. The decision was an agreeable one, for both sides agreed to withdraw their claims and settlers, and the island was used for the restricted purposes of

refitting and watering ships. Twenty years later, in 1743, the Marquis de Caylus, Governor General of Martinique, ordered his troops to capture St. Lucia, for once again England and France were at war. In 1748 the Treaty of Aix la Chapelle declared the island to be neutral.

The international situation in Europe flared into the Seven Years' War in 1756. In 1762, the island was captured by the naval forces of Admiral Rodney, yet this surrender was purposeless, for when the Treaty of Paris was signed in 1763, the island was assigned to France. At this period some of England's leading soldiers and sailors took part in these campaigns, and names like Stewart, Abercrombie and Moore, are to be remembered. After 1763, the French started to lay fortifications, and establish a permanent government. The island, in spite of these wranglings, had established by this time its foremost crop, sugar, for in 1765 the first sugar factory was established at Vieux Fort and negro slaves to work on the plantations were introduced. In 1772, the population was 2,018 whites, 633 coloured, and 12,795 Negroes.

During the administration of the French, the island made some headway under Chevalier de Micoud. The town of Castries, its present capital, was transferred from Le Petit Carenage in the Castries harbour on the Vigie Peninsular to its present site. The fortifications were further strengthened by the building of the massive forts on Morne Fortuné, a site which was to become one of the bloodiest battle-grounds of the Caribbean. In 1778, Rodney captured the island once again, and he held the position for England. Rodney insisted that the island should be held at all costs, for he had now been fully convinced of its strategic potentialities. Exactly what Rodney thought of the island as a naval outpost of the Empire, is contained in a letter addressed to the Earl of Sandwich, and is reproduced in Breen's *History of St. Lucia*, a work published in 1844. Four years later, in 1782, Rodney repulsed a vigorous attempt by the French to retake the island. It was at this time that Britain launched one of the greatest blows at French naval power, with the defeat of the French fleet under de Grasse at the battle of the Saints. The irony of the Treaty of Versailles the following year, was that St. Lucia was restored to France.

In 1794, a France torn with revolution at home, and in its dependencies, received another blow when Admiral Jarvice took the island. The following year, the island changed hands, when Victor Hughes, a French Republican and friend of Robespierre, captured the island in the name of France. The following year Sir Ralph Abercrombie and Sir John Moore retook the island for England, only for it to be restored to France by the Treaty of Amiens in 1802. Morne Fortuné was turned into the decisive battle ground in 1803, for the Morne was carried by storm by well-known British Regiments. Finally this island, the Helen of the West Indies, was ceded to Britain in 1814 at the Treaty of Paris.

With so much attention paid to the struggle between two powers, we must not forget the major issues and significance of the triangular international trade. In fact St. Lucia, like the rest of the archipelago, was an important link in the chain of rivalry for trade. The island gradually was being developed with plantations expanding their cultivation of sugar, cotton, coffee and spices. The island did not seem to "settle down", for

after it had gained respite from war, came the rising tide of revolt, and the Emancipation Act of 1833, when the slaves were set free after their period of apprenticeship.

Breen the historian, said in his *History of St. Lucia*, "Although St. Lucia's progress has been retarded by a thousand vicissitudes—fires and hurricanes, and internecine divisions and maroon wars, and foreign invasion and political broils, and financial difficulties and even bankruptcy; yet there is no colony that has passed through the ordeal of emancipation with less detriment to the interests of public order. . . ."

In the post-abolition days, and with the end of the Industrial Revolution of Europe, the commerce of the island grew. With the advent of steamships the colony became an important coaling centre, and in 1913 ranked as the 13th largest coaling station in the British commonwealth.

In 1838, St. Lucia was included with Barbados, Grenada and St. Vincent in one general Government, with Headquarters at Barbados, under a Governor-General, with a Lieutenant-Governor residing in each of the other islands. In 1885, a new Windward Island Government was established, comprising St. Lucia, St. Vincent, Grenada and Tobago, with Headquarters in Grenada. In 1851, the Castries Municipal Corporation was formed, to administer the affairs of the small capital town, and in 1890 the Castries Town Board replaced that body. The Castries Town Board enjoys the reputation of being the oldest wholly elected municipal authority in the British West Indies.

St. Lucia played an important role during World War I, being one of the largest Admiralty Coaling Stations. With the change-over to oil-burning vessels, the coaling trade declined. The greatest event of the twentieth century was the establishment of two United States Bases, under the 1940 Anglo-American Agreement.

The Castries Fire of 19-20th June, 1948, is a dark page in St. Lucia's history, and has already been described in Part II, Chapter 12.

During 1948 an agreement was reached with the United States, whereby the U.S. Base at Gros Islet which was no longer being used was handed back to the St. Lucia Government.

Chapter 3: Administration

The Government of St. Lucia is administered by an Administrator of the Governor of the Windward Islands, aided by an Executive Council. The constitution of the Executive Council is regulated by Royal Instructions of 1936, 1939 and 1945. When present in the Colony the Governor presides and in his absence the Administrator. The Executive Council consists of the Administrator, the Assistant Administrator, the Crown Attorney and the Treasurer as *ex-officio* members and such other persons as His Majesty or the Governor with the approval of the Secretary of State may appoint.

The law-making body is the Legislative Council reconstituted in 1936

by Order in Council and consisting of the Governor, three *ex-officio* members (the Administrator, Crown Attorney and Treasurer), three nominated members and five elected members, one each for three electoral districts and two for the district which includes the capital. The presiding member has a casting vote only.

The franchise extends to British subjects of 21 years of age who have resided in the Island for 12 months at least previous to registration and have the following income or property qualification: income of \$144 per annum; real property worth \$480 or rent of \$57.20 per annum; or the payment of \$3.60 in direct taxes. Persons desiring to register, unless incapacitated by blindness or some other physical cause, are required to sign their names and date their signature in their own hands.

Under the Legislative Council (Elected Members) Ordinance, 1939 as amended in 1945, the Register of voters is made triennially, the most recent one having been completed in March, 1946, showing a total number of 2,194 voters for the four electoral districts.

The powers of the Governor are contained in Letters Patent dated 9th April, 1924, and Royal Instructions of the same date. The Governor has reserve powers under an Order in Council, dated 27th October, 1936, for ensuring the passage of legislation which he considers expedient in the interests of public faith or of good government. Proceedings in council are regulated by Standing Rules and Orders dated 5th October, 1926.

In practice a Finance Committee, consisting of members of Legislative Council, which can be convened informally, functions as a consultative body and enables legislators to be kept in continuous touch with affairs.

Directly responsible to the Administrator are the Heads of Department.

A list of the principal departments follows:

- Administration Department.
- Agricultural Department.
- Audit Department.
- Education Department.
- Legal Department.
- Medical Department.
- Police Department.
- Port and Marine Department.
- Post Office Department.
- Public Works Department.
- Treasury and Customs Department.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

The Castries Town Board is a wholly elected body which prides itself on a history dating from 1890. The Board is constituted under the Castries Town Board Ordinance, No. 129, 1916 Revision, and within the limits of the Town of Castries has complete authority for raising and spending funds. In addition to the usual functions performed by a municipality, the Board is responsible for the supply of electricity to Castries and surroundings. Elections are held yearly, and one half of the members of the Board

retire every year in rotation, but are eligible for re-election. The members elect their chairman.

A major development in administration took place in 1948, when towns and villages started on the road to managing their own affairs under powers given by the Local Authorities Ordinance of 1946, proclaimed law in 1947.

Previously small towns and villages were represented by Improvement Committees, appointed by Government to advise Village Wardens on matters affecting their community. These committees had no statutory powers. The change over to a democratic system of local government was received with great enthusiasm, and at the 1947 Conference delegates made recommendations that the future Local Authorities should determine and control boundaries, roads, bridges and buildings, recreation grounds, sanitation, poor relief and local welfare, water services, electricity, fire fighting, markets and abattoirs, pounds and cemeteries, rates and taxes.

The first elections were held in December, 1947. Unfortunately, owing to the restricted printing facilities for publishing the electoral roll in each area as required by statute, no elections were held in 1948 and the Governor-in-Council extended the life of the councils for another year.

The functions of a District Officer are in the main supervisory and his office is at a convenient point of contact for the local authorities with the central administration. The Ordinance does not vest him with any official status within the local authorities, his position being that of the representative of the Administrator resident in the district. Administratively it has been arranged that matters affecting the districts under his supervision should be transmitted through the District Office to the Central Administration.

In the Ordinance the functions of the local authorities are fully defined. The authorities are enabled to accumulate funds on which they may draw in accordance with estimates approved by the Central Administration. The accounts are subject to audit by the Audit Department and inspection by members of the Legislative Council.

An attempt has been made to make the Ordinance sufficiently elastic to enable authorities, however called, to develop into fully elected bodies as they gain stability and experience. Provision is made for a direct subvention from central funds and for dissolution by the Governor-in-Council in the event of persistent mismanagement. Where a local authority is dissolved the Governor may by nomination complete the constitution of the Council or, in certain circumstances, appoint a person to act in the place of the local authority.

Chapter 4: Weights and Measures

The standard measures recognised by the laws of St. Lucia are as follows:

- (i) Standard of length, the Imperial yard.
- (ii) Standard of weight, the Imperial pound.
- (iii) Standard of capacity, the Imperial gallon.

Chapter 5: Newspapers and Periodicals

Two newspapers are published in Castries.

The Voice of St. Lucia, established 1885, is published usually five times a week.

The West Indian Crusader, founded in 1934, is a bi-weekly publication.

Chapter 6: Bibliography

St. Lucia, by H. H. BREEN (1844).

Handbook for St. Lucia, by E. C. GARRAWAY (1902). Revision by Palmer in 1921.

The following books have sections relating to the Government of St. Lucia:

History of the British Colonies in the West Indies, by BRYAN EDWARDS 3 vols. (1793).

Chronological History of the West Indies, by Capt. THOMAS SOUTHEY, R.N. 3 vols. (1827).

The West Indies: The Natural and Physical History of the Windward and Leeward Colonies, by Sir A. HALLIDAY (London: John Parker, 1937).

The English in the West Indies, by J. A. FROUDE (1888).

A Historical Geography of the British Colonies. Vol. II: The West Indies, by C. P. LUCAS, C.B. (1905).

West Indian Histories, Book III: Story of the West Indian Colonies, by EDWARD W. DANIEL, B.A.

The Year Book of the British West Indies.

The Pocket Guide to the West Indies, by Sir ALGERNON ASPINALL.

Geography of the West Indies and Adjacent Islands, by J. O. CUTTERIDGE, F.R.G.S. (1937).

The West India Royal Commission Report, Cmd. 6656.

COLONIAL GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS, 1948

An Investigation of Credit Facilities for Small Cultivators in the Windward Islands, by E. L. JACK. Obtainable free from the Government of St. Lucia.

Report on the Causes and Circumstances of the Fire in Castries, St. Lucia, on the 19th and 20th June, 1948, by Mr. Justice A. V. CRANE.

Report of the Enquiry held into the St. Lucia Police Force, July, 1948, by Brigadier A. S. MAVROGORDATO.

The Revised Sketch Development Plan—1946–1956—St. Lucia.

APPENDICES

APPENDIX I

WAGES AND HOURS OF WORK

Agriculture

Men	2s. per day plus 1s. per day cost-of-living bonus	8-hr. day
Women	1s. 7d. per day plus 8d. per day cost-of-living bonus.	

Young Persons

Male (16-19 yrs.)	2s. per day (inclusive of bonus)	
Female (")	1s. 7d. " " (" " ")	
Male (14-15 yrs.)	1s. 7d. " " (" " ")	
Female (")	1s. 3½d. " " (" " ")	

Sugar estates (piecework):

Cane cutting	4s. 6d. per day.
Loading cane trucks	4s. 6d. per day.
Heading canes	4s. 6d. per day.

Skilled Workmen

Carpenters	From 12c. to 24c. per hr.	8-hr. day
Smiths	" 10c. to 18c. " "	
Mechanics	" 14c. to 24c. " "	
Painters	" 9c. to 16c. " "	
Masons	" 15c. to 25c. " "	
Bakers	" 15s. 6d. to 28s. weekly	12-hr. day (average)

Printers (Commercial)	£2 to £3 " "	11-hr. day (average)
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Compositors	8s. to 24s. " "	11-hr. day (average)
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Pressmen	12s. (flat rate)	
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Printers (Government)

Class I	£150 × £10 to £200 per annum	8-hr. day
Class II	£100 × £10 to £150 " "	"
Class III	£80 × £5 to £100 " "	"
Class IV	£60 × £5 to £80 " "	"
Apprentice	£36 × £3 to £50 " "	"

Overtime in accordance with rates of pay.

Transport and Communications

Motor Drivers (Government)	From 16c. to 20c. per hr.	8-hr. day
" " (Commercial)	Paid on commission basis from 3s. to 4s. in the £ weekly	12-hr. day (average)

Waterfront Workers

Dockmen	1s. 6d. per hour	Overtime 2s. 3d. per hour
Holdmen	1s. 8d. " "	" 2s. 6d. " "
Winchmen	} 2s. 2d. " "	" 3s. 3d. " "
Guymen		
Gangwaymen		
Tally Clerks	2s. 4d. " "	" 5s. " "

Telephone Workers

Foremen	6s. per day	8 hrs.
Linesman		
1st Class	4s. 8d. " "	"
2nd Class	4s. " "	"

Overtime rates 50 per cent above basic rates.

Commerce**Shop Assistants:**

Male	58s. 2d. (minimum wage) to £8 per month.	41-56-hr. week.
Female	43s. 8d. (minimum wage) to £6 per month.	41-56-hr. week.

Public Services**Clerical Officers:**

Special Grade Clerk	£350 × £20 to £420 p.a.
First Class Clerk	£250 × £15 to £325 "
Second Class Clerk	£125 × £10 to £225 "
Third Class Clerk	£80 × £10 to £110 "
Clerk in Training	£60 "

Subordinate Officers:

Sub-Class I	£100 × £10 to £150 p.a.
Sub-Class II	£85 × £5 to £100 "
Sub-Class III	£65 × £5 to £85 "
Sub-Class IV	£45 × £3 to £60 "

Police Force

Sub-Inspector	£250 × £10 to £300 p.a.
Band Master	£200 × £10 to £250 "
Station Sergeant	£160 × £10 to £180 "
Sergeants	£130 × £6 to £160 "
Corporals	£120 × £5 to £130 "
Lance Corporals	£100 × £5 to £120 "
Constables	£90 × £5 to £110 "
Recruits	£60 p.a. for first six months
	£80 p.a. for second six months.

Rates of Cost-of-Living Bonus payable to Employees in Public Service

Salaries up to £60 p.a.	40 per cent
from £61 to £150 p.a.	30 " "
from £151 to £250 p.a.	20 " "
from £251 to £400 p.a.	10 " "

Domestic servants

Fed and lodged	10s. to 35s. per month	12-hr. day (average)
Not fed or lodged	20s. to 35s. per month	12-hr. day (average)

APPENDIX II

SUMMARY OF LABOUR LEGISLATION

Legislation dealing with Trade Unions

Trade Unions and Trade Disputes Ordinance, No. 4 of 1948.

Legislation dealing with the Employment of Women and Children

Employment of Women, Young Persons and Children Ordinance, No. 22 of 1934.

Employment of Women, Young Persons and Children Ordinance Operation Order, No. 49 of 1937.

Employment of Women, Young Persons and Children (Amendment) Ordinance, No. 9 of 1939.

Employment of Children (Restriction) Ordinance, No. 28 of 1939.

Employment of Women Ordinance, No. 8 of 1946.

Legislation establishing Wage fixing Machinery

Labour (Minimum Wage) Ordinance, No. 5 of 1935.

Labour (Minimum Wage) (Amendment) Ordinance, No. 3 of 1937.

Labour (Minimum Wage) (Amendment) Ordinance, No. 6 of 1938.

Labour (Minimum Wage) (Amendment) Ordinance, No. 24 of 1941.

Labour (Coaling Industry) (Minimum Wage) Order, No. 63 of 1941.

Labour (Minimum Wage) (Agricultural Labourers) Ordinance, No. 64 of 1946.

Labour (Minimum Wage) (Agricultural Labourers) (Amendment) Order, No. 14 of 1947.

Legislation dealing with Arbitration

Trade Disputes (Arbitration and Inquiry) Ordinance, No. 15 of 1940.

Legislation dealing with Workmen's Compensation

Workmen's Compensation Ordinance, No. 7 of 1941.

Workmen's Compensation (Amendment) Ordinance, No. 4 of 1942.

Workmen's Compensation Regulations, No. 58 of 1942.

Factory Legislation

Factories Ordinance, No. 8 of 1943.

Factories Regulations (S.R. & O.), No. 8 of 1948.

Steam Boilers Ordinance, No. 1 of 1932.

Masters and Servants Legislation

Employers and Servants Ordinance, No. 29 of 1938.

Employers and Servants (Amendment) Ordinance, No. 23 of 1941.

Recruiting of Workers Legislation

Recruiting of Workers Ordinance, No. 31 of 1939.

Recruiting of Workers (Amendment) Ordinance, No. 2 of 1941.

Recruiting of Workers (Regulations), No. 13 of 1942.

Recruiting of Workers (Amendment) Regulations, No. 81 of 1942.

Legislation affecting Hours of Work

Shop (Hours) Ordinance, No. 5 of 1941.

Shop Hours Order, No. 2 of 1942.

Shop Hours (Amendment) Order, No. 57 of 1942.

Shop (Hours) Ordinance-Proclamation, No. 92 of 1941.

Other Legislation

Daily Labourer's Wages Payment Ordinance, No. 13 of 1924.

Labour Ordinance, No. 14 of 1938.

Labour (Amendment) Ordinance, No. 10 of 1943.

Sugar Export Cess (Administration) Regulations, No. 1 of 1948.

Sugar Export Cess Ordinance, 1947.

Sugar Export Cess (Amendment) Ordinance, No. 1 of 1948.

APPENDIX III

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF REVENUE FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1947

Heads of Revenue	Estimate for 1947	Actual Revenue to 31st December, 1947	Revenue for 1946	Increase or Decrease
	\$	\$	\$	\$
1. Customs: Import Duties	480,000	569,434	501,269	+ 68,165
Export Duties	72,000	65,990	53,760	+ 12,230
2. Port, Harbour, &c., Dues	16,800	12,768	11,165	+ 1,603
3. Excise	153,600	136,459	156,998	- 20,539
4. Licences, &c.—				
1. Spirits, &c.	23,318	22,886	20,971	+ 1,915
2. Trade duty on spirits	48,000	42,806	42,019	+ 787
6. Stamp duty: Various Revenue services	3,840	5,227	4,829	+ 398
7. Succession duty	4,800	9,202	4,910	+ 4,292
8. Fines and forfeitures of courts	5,760	6,302	6,154	+ 148
9. Revenue, seizures and penalties	288	101	235	- 134
10. Cess on citrus prod.	288	115	322	- 207
11. Income tax	158,400	154,594	132,485	+ 22,109
12. Rural house tax	4,800	4,104	4,044	+ 60
13. Entertainment tax	960	139	451	+ 312
14. Cess on bananas	—	14	1	+ 13
15. Recruiting Agents	480	336	—	+ 336
16. War tax	—	—	—	—
5. Fees of Court or Office	46,426	39,384	39,245	+ 139
6. Post Office	122,688	75,226	182,750	- 107,524
7. Telephone	10,272	9,514	10,351	- 837
8. Rent of Government Property	6,240	2,088	3,989	- 1,901
9. Interest	18,466	17,371	17,818	- 447
10. Municipal and other loans	5,040	4,925	5,174	- 249
11. Miscellaneous Receipts	18,288	33,086	11,606	+ 21,480
Total Ordinary Revenue	1,200,754	1,212,071	1,210,546	+ 1,525
12. Land Sales	1,920	4,786	1,939	+ 2,847
Total Local Revenue	1,202,674	1,216,857	1,212,485	+ 4,372
13. Parliamentary Grant	—	—	—	—
14. Col. Development and Welfare Schemes	543,370	140,362	507,778	- 367,416
TOTAL REVENUE	1,746,044	1,357,219	1,720,263	- 363,044

**COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF EXPENDITURE FOR THE
PERIOD ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1947**

<i>Heads of Expenditure</i>	<i>Estimate for 1947</i>	<i>Actual Expenditure to 31st December, 1947</i>	<i>Expenditure for 1946</i>	<i>Increase or Decrease</i>
	\$	\$	\$	\$
1. Charges on account of Public Debt	38,203	38,173	38,173	—
2. Pensions and Gratuities	38,520	48,709	53,149	— 4,440
3. Governor	7,944	8,332	7,876	+ 456
3a. Legislature	6,720	5,945	6,690	— 745
4. Administration	68,789	65,616	42,146	+ 23,470
5. Agriculture and Forests	84,797	76,195	27,321	+ 48,874
6. Audit Department	9,096	8,432	6,018	+ 2,414
7. Charitable	—	—	16,368	— 16,368
8. Ecclesiastical	7,680	7,680	7,680	—
9. Education	126,470	121,743	98,702	+ 23,041
10. Labour Department	5,376	4,224	4,799	— 575
11. Lands and Survey Department	21,533	13,595	13,011	+ 584
12. Legal Departments	34,622	33,710	29,068	+ 4,642
13. Local Forces	3,000	3,000	3,000	—
14. Medical Department	141,475	145,608	118,627	+ 26,981
15. Miscellaneous Services	72,893	96,507	79,348	+ 17,159
16. Police	100,109	83,396	77,991	+ 5,405
17. Port and Marine Department	14,491	16,799	11,583	+ 5,216
18. Post Office	27,677	21,466	28,749	— 7,283
19. Prisons	22,963	25,089	19,364	+ 5,725
20. Public Works Department	26,558	21,187	16,408	+ 4,779
21. Public Works Recurrent	173,184	297,672	106,635	+ 191,037
22. Telephone Department	16,296	15,366	15,139	+ 227
23. Treasury, Customs and Inland Revenue	53,227	50,119	38,694	+ 11,425
24. War Services	—	—	129,921	— 129,921
25. Central Housing and Planning Authority	4,498	689	745	— 56
26. Post War Expenditure	91,435	169,586	—	+ 169,586
Total Ordinary Expenditure	1,197,557	1,378,838	997,205	+ 381,633
EXTRAORDINARY				
4a. Administration	480	941	684	+ 257
5a. Agriculture	1,680	1,219	—	+ 1,219
16a. Police Department	7,440	6,419	765	+ 5,654
20a. Public Works Department	78,768	37,439	102,306	— 64,867
22a. Telephone Department	—	3,274	73	+ 3,201
Total Local Expenditure	1,285,925	1,428,130	1,101,033	+ 327,097
27. Expenditure from Surplus Balance	210,240	—	—	—
28. Col. Development and Welfare Scheme	543,370	133,580	378,298	— 244,718
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	2,039,535	1,561,710	1,479,331	+ 82,379

APPENDIX IV

[illegible]

APPENDIX V

INCOME TAX 1948: STATEMENT OF INDIVIDUALS
AND COMPANIES ASSESSED AT VARYING RATES

<i>Income Group</i>	<i>No. of Assessments</i>	<i>Tax Yield</i>
\$ 4.80- 480.00 484.80- 960.00 964.80- 1,440.00 1,444.80- 1,920.00 1,924.80- 2,400.00 2,404.80- 2,880.00 2,884.80- 3,360.00 3,364.80- 3,840.00 3,844.80- 4,320.00 4,324.80- 4,800.00 4,804.80- 5,280.00 5,284.80- 5,760.00 5,764.80- 6,240.00 6,244.80- 6,720.00 6,724.80- 7,200.00 7,204.80- 7,680.00 7,684.80- 8,160.00 8,164.80- 8,640.00 8,644.80- 9,120.00 9,124.80- 9,600.00 9,604.80- 10,080.00 10,084.80- 10,560.00 10,564.80- 11,040.00 11,044.80- 11,520.00 11,524.80- 12,000.00 12,004.80- 12,480.00 12,484.80- 12,960.00 12,964.80- 13,440.00 13,444.80- 13,920.00 13,924.80- 14,400.00 Over \$30,000	Nil 279 159 80 46 21 16 18 7 6 8 14 13 5 4 5	Nil 1,185.00 1,832.40 2,146.92 2,212.32 1,749.48 1,675.44 2,561.52 1,676.64 1,672.80 2,661.48 10,573.44 14,867.52 10,446.92 10,300.80 30,017.04
Companies	681	95,579.56
	44	82,314.36
TOTAL	725	\$177,893.88

Income tax rates vary on a sliding scale from 6*d.* in the pound on every pound of the first \$480.00 to 13*s.* 6*d.* in the pound on every pound above \$24,000.00. The tax upon the chargeable income of a company is charged at the rate of 6*s.* on every pound. The rates are contained in Section 23 of the Income Tax Ordinance, 1947, No. 8 of 1948, which came into operation on 1st January, 1948.

It is not possible to compare returns for 1941-45 with those for 1948 owing to revision of rates and scales. Figures for previous years are available in the *St. Lucia Annual Reports* for 1946 and 1947.

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1949 and 1950

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COLONIAL OFFICE
REPORT ON
ST. LUCIA
FOR THE YEARS
1949 and 1950

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1952

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PART I

Review of 1949 and 1950

THE years 1949 and 1950 have necessarily been overshadowed by the task of rehabilitation and reconstruction following upon the disastrous fire which destroyed four-fifths of Castries including the central area of the town on 19th and 20th June, 1948. This task has only been made possible through the generous grant by H.M. Government of £1,025,000. This grant has been conditional upon the maximum contribution being made from St. Lucia's resources. The Colonial Development Corporation were asked to undertake the work of detailed planning and supervision, and the United Kingdom firm of Messrs. Holland and Hannen and Cubitts, Ltd., were engaged by the Colonial Development Corporation as contractors. The town is being rebuilt in accordance with a new plan which became legally operative on 11th June, 1949.

The rebuilding of the town has put comparatively large sums of money into circulation and has provided temporary employment on a large scale. It has, however, been realised that this artificial prosperity will be ephemeral and that provision must be made for strengthening the Colony's economy, not only to provide employment when Castries reconstruction comes to an end, but also to enable the Colony to shoulder the considerable loan commitments which it has undertaken.

To this end it was announced on 24th July, 1950, that the Secretary of State had agreed that a team of experts should be sent to St. Lucia to draw up an integrated programme of large-scale agricultural development and to advise Government, in the light of their recommendations, what feeder road development should be financed from the allocation of \$720,000 for this purpose from Colonial Development and Welfare funds. The team was expected to visit St Lucia in 1951.

The rebuilding of Castries has not, however, been undertaken in the period under review to the exclusion of other developments which had already been projected in the Colony's Ten-Year Plan and which are reviewed in the following extracts from an address by the Administrator (Mr. J. M. Stow, C.M.G.) to Legislative Council on 14th December, 1950 :

" Looking back on 1950 I think that the most significant and hopeful portent has been the decision by His Majesty's Government to send a team of experts to the Colony to advise what schemes of an economic nature can appropriately be undertaken here.

" For too long this Colony has struggled along either on its own inadequate resources or with assistance from Colonial Development and Welfare funds and it has never been possible to tie in the provision of communications with production to an extent likely to affect the Colony.

" Now it has been recognised by the Secretary of State that the problem of the Colony's future economic productivity must be tackled boldly and imaginatively

in conjunction with a road programme, if the Colony's own financial position is to be maintained and if considerable unemployment is to be avoided after Castries reconstruction comes to an end. I, therefore, look forward with confidence to the Commission's findings and to their implementation.

"It has, for some time, been realised that the Colony's Ten-Year Plan could never revolutionise the future of the Colony. The demands of social services, education and health could not be wholly disregarded in such a programme with the result that the butter has been spread too thinly over the bread and no real and permanent stimulus has been given to production.

"Against this broad background Castries is being rebuilt largely through the generosity of the Mother Country and a good deal of money is being put into circulation temporarily. Without this artificial boom, which will last for about another two years, the Colony would indeed be in an even worse financial position than it is.

"In this coming year it is vital to the Colony's future that with the Commission's help we should plan wisely and execute quickly the economic schemes which will be complementary to the road programme for which His Majesty's Government has already generously promised up to \$720,000.

"No political considerations must disturb the choice of the schemes which will benefit the Colony as a whole ; no parochial pride must be permitted to intervene. The broad canvas must be seen objectively and I am sure that this House will fulfil its duty in this task.

AGRICULTURE

"In the field of agriculture there have been no spectacular changes since the position was reviewed in my last Address.

"Sugar production and exports have shown some increase within the limits set by areas of suitable land.

"The coconut industry continues to be influenced by a regional agreement which affords better returns than those obtained in the pre-war period but lower than the average returns from sugar and cocoa.

"The export duty on copra was reduced in accordance with the recommendations of Professor Beasley, and at the same meeting of Council, by the provisions of the Coconut Industry Fund Ordinance a fund for the stabilisation and benefit of the industry was established. Meanwhile, the Coconut Growers' Association is proceeding with the erection of a copra factory at Soufrière.

"With regard to cocoa, the prospects seem brighter than for some time past. The nursery at Union, established with Colonial Development and Welfare funds, is now paying dividends by making possible the distribution throughout the Island of large quantities of seedlings and increasing numbers of rooted cuttings from high yielding clones introduced from Trinidad.

"During the year, six subsidiary centres have been established under Scheme D. 1249 for the propagation of banana planting material and recently some 25,000 plants were imported from Dominica at a cost of about \$4,000. These were sold at prices varying between 6 and 20 cents.

"Negotiations are proceeding between the Banana Association and Messrs. Band and Foley of Dominica with a view to concluding a contract on similar lines to that concluded in Dominica.

"The Vieux Fort Scheme has now been in operation for just over two years.

"The provision for working credit for the Vieux Fort area in 1951 is provided at half the figure for 1950, subject to a review by Finance Committee of the actual programme for 1951. This reduction has been made as the scheme carries considerable reserves of fertilisers etc., and it is felt that capital expenditure could reasonably be curtailed this year. This provision will enable some activity to be continued at Vieux Fort until the area can be absorbed in any programme of development which may result from the visit of the team of experts.

DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

"As a result of Mr. Macleod Smith's Fiscal Survey of the Colony published early in the year it was shown that the Colony's Colonial Development and Welfare allocation was in fact over-committed. In other words if all the Colonial Development and Welfare Schemes in operation and approved were carried on to their normal expiry dates the Colony's allocation of \$1,797,228 would be exceeded by \$163,968.

"Accordingly a list of schemes was prepared for curtailment or excision which resulted in the conversion of the over-commitment into a balance of Colonial Development and Welfare funds amounting to \$107,548. This balance was earmarked for servicing debt charges on a development loan of about \$1,680,000 for five years.

"During the St. Lucia delegation's visit to London, it was decided that this slender balance of Colonial Development and Welfare funds should not be used for this purpose, but in view of the Secretary of State's desire that certain schemes of economic importance, which were included in the list earmarked for curtailment or excision, should be proceeded with, the balance of Colonial Development and Welfare funds available to the Colony under the present Act is now negligible.

"... It has been possible during the year to make good progress with approved C.D. and W. schemes. The Vieux Fort Water Supply Scheme has now been completed and water from the Base is now provided to Vieux Fort town and as far north as Laborie.

"At Monchy a combined school has been completed at a cost of \$33,268.87 while Health Centres at Anse la Raye and La Fargue were opened earlier in the year. In respect of the design of these buildings we have been fortunate to have had the advice of the Executive Architect, Windward Islands.

"The Secretary of State's approval of a grant of \$31,600 from Colonial Development and Welfare funds for a new Methodist school in Castries was received a few days ago.

"This month designs and estimates of the Soufrière Hydro-Electricity Scheme will be drawn up by the Consulting Engineers to the Crown Agents. When this scheme was approved in principle by the Secretary of State in May, 1949, it was thought that adequate information and data were available on which orders could be placed and, in fact, authority was given for the machinery to be ordered if the data was sufficient. On reference to the Consulting Engineers to the Crown Agents, however, it was revealed that the information was quite inadequate. Whereas private companies may be able to proceed to instal machinery on their own initiative it is not possible for the administration to play around with taxpayers' money without due caution and complete information. This, I hope will be available very soon on this particular project.

Feeder Road Programme

"From the sum of \$720,000 to be provided for the feeder road programme the Secretary of State agreed last summer that a sum of \$96,000 should be provided immediately for the improvement and construction of unclassified roads subject to the submission of schemes establishing the economic value of the works proposed.

"Accordingly, after referring the question of priorities to a local Committee and the Finance Committee the undermentioned schemes involving the expenditure indicated have been submitted for approval :

	£
Soufrière—Quatre Chemins Road	5,000
Causeway on Mabouya Valley Feeder Road	625
Corner and culvert improvement on Mamiecou-Raillon road	5,333
Road to Marquis Estate	1,500

Further applications

"It was decided that grant funds of the order of \$4,920,000 and loan funds (subject to revision) of \$1,729,958 should be made available to meet the cost of reconstruction and also that the Colony should not commit itself to paying more than the statutory one per cent sinking fund on loans raised. During the year under review the Housing Scheme, which is being carried out at a cost of \$1,688,670, has nearly been completed and was formally opened by me in the Governor's absence a few days ago. Here again the sympathetic hearing which the delegation received from the Secretary of State in London led to the proportion of grant to loan funds being converted from 50 per cent grant and 50 per cent Colony loan funds to 75 per cent and 25 per cent respectively. Rentals for the housing will soon be published.

"The Bonded Warehouse is complete and the Customs Offices are nearing completion. The former, I hope, may during the year be instrumental in capturing some transshipment cargo trade for St. Lucia.

"The new Jeremie and Bridge Street roads and others necessitated by the Town Plan are in progress while most of the sewers have been laid in the Town.

"During 1951 it is expected that work on the Port and Police Station, Police Barracks, the Post Office, Law Courts, Town Board and Government Offices and Library will be started and it is hoped that they will be completed in 1952.

"During the year 1951, general elections will be held on the basis of universal adult suffrage and consequently this will be the last Budget which will come before this House as at present constituted."

A list of Development and Welfare schemes initiated or in progress during 1949 and 1950 is given in Appendix IV.

During 1949 and 1950 the Colony was represented at the following conferences and commissions :

The Commonwealth Parliamentary Association Conference held in New Zealand.

The Devaluation Conference held in Barbados.

The Oils and Fats Conference held in Barbados.

The fourth West Indian Conference held in Curaçao.

A Conference of all sugar producing Colonies held in Grenada.

A Conference of Education Officers held in Barbados.

The Commission on the establishment of a Customs Union.

The Preparatory Commission for the Unification of Currency.

PART II

Chapter 1: Population

THE last census which was taken in 1946, gave a population of 70,113 comprising 33,311 males and 36,802 females. The tables below show the changes in population since 1946 by natural increase and by migration.

Comparison of Natural Increase, 1946-50

Years	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950
Males	788	827	733	801	878
Females	825	772	652	683	758
Totals	1,613	1,599	1,385	1,484	1,636

Immigrants and Emigrants, 1946-50

Years	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950
Immigrants	3,797	4,650	6,807	6,441	5,984
Emigrants	4,015	3,988	6,732	5,087	5,797
Increase/Decrease ..	-218	+ 662	+ 75	+ 1,354	+ 187

The estimated population was 77,700 on 31st December, 1949, and 79,500 on 31st December, 1950. The population density for the whole island was estimated to be 330 per square mile in 1949 and 338 per square mile in 1950. Of the total population more than 20,000 are estimated to reside in the capital town of Castries and the surrounding district to which it gives its name. The remainder of the population is almost entirely confined to coastal areas, being concentrated in the towns and villages of Anse la Raye, Canaries, Soufrière, Choiseul, Laborie, Vieux Fort, Micoud, Dennery and Gros Islet.

Racially the island has in the main a negro or mixed negro and white population. Small numbers of East Indians are found and there is a very small group of European descent.

Chapter 2 : Occupations, Wages and Labour Organisation

OCCUPATIONS AND WAGES

The economy of St. Lucia is predominately agricultural and it is, indeed, primarily devoted to the production of sugar cane. Other products include cocoa, coconuts, bananas and to a lesser extent citrus. The Colony produces no minerals of sufficient quantity to justify commercial exploitation. There is no major industrial activity apart from the processing of sugar. Charcoal burning is done to supply the demands for fuel locally and in some of the neighbouring islands. The numerous bays and inlets of the island are very suitable for fishing. A natural deepwater harbour at Castries is ideal for shipping.

The gainfully employed persons in St. Lucia, according to the census taken in 1946, were 31,891 of whom 50.18 per cent were engaged in agriculture ; 0.21 per cent in quarrying and mining ; 3.27 per cent in fishing ; 0.69 per cent in forestry ; 14.89 per cent in manufacturing and repair ; 9.64 per cent in construction ; 1.75 per cent in transport and communication ; 4.09 per cent in commerce and finance. The remaining 15.28 per cent were divided among the public and professional services, personal service and other occupations. (These figures indicate the distribution of occupations in 1949-50, as no major change has occurred since 1946). With such restricted openings for work, unemployment is a perennial problem especially in the urban areas of the Colony.

Since the rebuilding of Castries was put in hand, the Colonial Development Corporation have been the main employers of labour in the Colony. The building industry has absorbed a total of 1,145 workers of all categories in more or less permanent employment.

In 1949 a number of projects sponsored by Government, the Castries Town Board and private companies provided a greater continuity of employment than has been experienced for a number of years. In 1950 private building in and around Castries provided employment for the surplus that could not find employment in the reconstruction programme. The extension of the Water Scheme, which is being undertaken by the Castries Town Board, though in its early stages, also absorbed some of the unemployed. Road building, which in former years had absorbed the greater portion of the unemployed, provided employment for very few persons.

Great difficulty has been encountered in securing employment for women. It has been customary to use the services of women for

OCCUPATIONS, WAGES AND LABOUR ORGANISATION 9
collecting and carrying road building material over short distances. It has now been found uneconomic to employ them and labour saving devices have displaced a considerable number of them.

During 1950, the statutory minimum wage for agricultural workers, which had remained unchanged from 3rd March, 1947, was increased from 72 cents to 84 cents per day of eight hours for men and from 54 cents to 62 cents per day for women. The same Order in Council, which became effective on 1st September, 1950, increased the wages of male and female juveniles of 14 to 16 years from 36 cents and 31 cents to 42 cents and 36 cents respectively, and of male and female juveniles of 16 to 18 years from 48 cents and 38 cents to 56 cents and 44 cents respectively.

An Order in Council, No. 18 of 1950, increased the minimum wage payable to shop assistants by two and a half times over the wages which they received in 1939. This Order became effective on 1st September, 1950.

Male labourers employed on the Castries Reconstruction were paid a minimum of \$1.04 per day while the wages for a female labourer was 88 cents per day. The rates of pay of other categories of workers are set out in Appendix I.

The workers on the sugar estates also received increased wages during 1949 and 1950. The new wage rates are given below :

Labourers :

Men	98¢ per 8-hour day
Women	68¢ " "
Young Persons :	
Male (16-18)	58¢ per 8-hour day
Female (")	44¢ " "
Male (14-16)	47¢ " "
Female (")	38¢ " "
Cane cutting	60¢ per 13½ tons
Loading cane trucks	21¢ per ton
Heading canes	60¢ per 13½ tons

A schedule of wages paid to shop assistants, domestic servants, waterfront workers and certain public servants is given at Appendix II.

COST OF LIVING

The Labour Department compiles and publishes monthly a cost-of-living index figure for working-class families. It is difficult to state accurately the increase in the cost of living to overseas officials since the last war, but the following list of prewar prices of certain main commodities compared with those obtaining in 1949 and 1950 should serve to indicate the extent of changed conditions.

Comparative Prices of Certain Items of Food

		1939 cents	1949 cents	1950 cents
Flour	per lb.	5	10	12
Rice	" "	6	8	8
Cereals	" pkt.	24	50	83
Beans	" lb.	10	22	18
Sugar	" "	5	6	8
Milk	" qt.	6	7	9
Fish (fresh)	" lb.	10	14	16
" (tinned)	" "	14	28	34
Pork (fresh)	" "	16	28	36
Meat (tinned)	" "	16	86	59
" (fresh)	" "	16	28	32
Bacon	" "	48	1'17	1'17
Ham	" "	32	1'37	1'60
Butter	" "	64	76	95
Eggs	" doz.	18	36	72
Cheese	" lb.	48	64	72
Coffee	" "	20	43	79
Tea	" pkt.	1'04	75	1'09
Potatoes	" lb.	5	9	9
Vegetables (green)	" "	6	8	8
" (other)	" "	4	8	8
Tobacco	" "	64	92	1'10
Cigarettes	" pkt. of 20	20	24	32
Beer	" pint	16	31	34

The following table shows the cost-of-living figures from January, 1947, to December, 1950 (August, 1939=100) :

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
1947 .	201	201	206	206	218	220	220	222	222	222	222	227
1948 .	228	228	228	228	230	230	230	228	230	229	231	233
1949 .	235	235	232	231	233	235	235	241	241	243	243	252
1950 .	252	252	246	246	246	246	246	246	246	243	243	244

LABOUR DEPARTMENT

The staff of the Labour Department consisted of the Labour Officer and Secretary for Labour, the Assistant Labour Officer (acting as Labour Inspector under the Labour Ordinance No. 17 of 1938), a junior clerk, a stenotypist and a messenger.

The post of Labour Officer and Secretary for Labour was established under the Labour Ordinance, No. 17 of 1938, which outlined his principal duties as follows :

- (i) to supervise and review regularly the various forms of employment of labour which exist in the Colony ;
- (ii) to ensure the due enforcement of Labour Statutes in the Colony ;
- (iii) to bring to the attention of the Governor every matter or thing which is likely to be prejudicial to the welfare to any class of labour, or cause any disagreement between labourers and their employers ;

OCCUPATIONS, WAGES AND LABOUR ORGANISATION 11

- (iv) to make recommendations to the Governor from time to time for the promoting and safeguarding of the general welfare of labourers.

In practice, all disputes which are not settled by direct negotiations between employer and worker come to the notice of the Labour Department ; encouragement and assistance are given to settle these amicably without recourse to the Courts. The Department also functions as an employment bureau, and in addition collects information in respect of wages, hours of employment and working conditions generally in the Colony, compiles statistics relating to the retail prices of articles used by the working classes, and compiles the official cost-of-living index figures.

Advice and guidance are given when necessary to trade unions and employers' organisations to promote and maintain amicable industrial relations and develop sound organisation.

The Labour Officer served on the following Boards and Committees :

The Labour Advisory Board, as Liaison Officer,
The Rent Assessment Board,
The Resettlement Committee for Ex-servicemen and women, as Secretary and Liaison Officer,
The Labour Welfare Fund Committee, as Chairman,
The Prices Control Board.

TRADE UNIONS

During the years under review there were two trade unions registered under the Trade Union and Trade Disputes Ordinance, No. 4 of 1949. The St. Lucia Workers Co-operative Union caters for all classes of workers while the St. Lucia Seamen and Waterfront Union is restricted to dock workers and seamen.

At the close of 1950 the nominal membership of the St. Lucia Workers Co-operative Union was 2,500 while that of the Seamen's Union was 750.

Agreement was reached between the Sugar Association Ltd. and the St. Lucia Workers Co-operative Union before the commencement of the crop season in 1949 and 1950 and as a result unskilled labour in the factory and the estates received 16 and 16·7 per cent increases respectively over the statutory minimum wage.

Wage increases for dock workers, representing an increase of 7·2 per cent over the previous year, were negotiated between the Seamen and Waterfront Union and the Shipping Agents for 1949 and 1950. Satisfactory negotiations were also concluded between the Seamen's Union and Messrs. Cable & Wireless Ltd. of London as to rates of pay and working conditions for the unlicensed personnel employed on the C.S. *Electra*.

During the years 1949 and 1950 through the efforts of the Seamen's Union a Dutch shipping interest in the Netherlands West Indies engaged 48 seamen.

DISPUTES

Seventy-eight complaints and minor disputes, which arose out of the non-payment of wages and wrongful dismissal, were amicably settled through the advice and assistance of the Labour Department.

No major disputes, strikes or lockouts were reported in 1949. In 1950 three strikes were reported. The first strike, involving 1,200 workers employed by the Colonial Development Corporation on the reconstruction of Castries, was called by the St. Lucia Workers Co-operative Union on 29th January, 1950. Work was resumed on 6th February, 1950. The workers sought a 25 per cent increase for all categories of workers ; payment at time and a half rates for work on Sundays and holidays ; the payment of the difference between straight rates and overtime rates for all workers who worked on 13th December, 1949, a public holiday ; and an automatic increase in wages whenever the cost-of-living index figure rose to an agreed number of points.

Efforts to arrive at a settlement proved abortive and the dispute was referred to an Arbitration Tribunal comprising Mr. Justice Jackson, Acting Chief Justice of the Windward and Leeward Islands, Mr. Shenfield, Economic Adviser to the Government of Trinidad, as Government's Assessor, and Mr. G. H. Adams, Assessor of the Workers' Co-operative Union.

The following is the summary of the findings of the tribunal :

- (a) that the minimum wages paid to the lowest male labourer be \$1.04 per day or an increase of 4 cents per day to all unskilled workers.
- (b) that double time rates be paid for overtime on public holidays (except Wednesdays) and Sundays.
- (c) that overtime be paid for the extra half hour's work on week days for the period 11th November, 1949, to 15th July, 1950. No extra pay to be given for the extra half day in future.
- (d) that a percentage increase or decrease be made in all agreed rates whenever the cost-of-living index changes by six points, according to the percentage effect on the cost-of-living index of such changes.
- (e) that payment at public holiday rates be made in respect of work done on 13th December, 1949.
- (f) that no pay be given in respect of the strike period.

The new wage rates are set out at Appendix I.

The other two strikes took place at the Cul de Sac and Dennery

sugar factories on 6th and 13th March, 1950, respectively and were settled satisfactorily by the Labour Officer.

LABOUR LEGISLATION

The following legislation was enacted during the years 1949 and 1950 :

The Workmen's Compensation (Amendment) Ordinance was passed by the Legislative Council and came into effect on 16th March, 1949. The Ordinance amended Section 4 of the principal Ordinance and provides for increased compensation as follows :

Death : 36 months' wages or \$1,920 instead of 30 months' wages or \$1,200.

Burial Expenses : \$38.40 instead of \$24.

Permanent total disablement—adult : 48 months' wages or \$1,920, instead of 42 months' wages or \$1,680.

Permanent total disablement—minor : 96 months' wages or \$1,920 instead of 84 months' wages or \$1,680.

Temporary disablement— adult : $\frac{1}{2}$ of monthly wage paid monthly instead of $\frac{1}{4}$ of monthly wage.

Temporary disablement— minor : $\frac{1}{2}$ of monthly wage paid half monthly instead of $\frac{1}{4}$ of monthly wage.

The Labour (Minimum Wage) (Shop Assistants) Order, Statutory Rules & Orders, No. 2 of 1949, came into effect on 1st February, 1949. An Amending Order (S.R. & O. No. 18 of 1950) came into operation on 1st September, 1950. The orders increased the rates of wages payable to shop assistants.

The Shop (Hours) (Amendment) Ordinance No. 28 of 1949, came into effect on 30th December, 1949. The object of this amendment was to extend the provisions of the Shops Hours Ordinance (No. 5 of 1941) to shops licensed for the sale of intoxicating liquors and in particular to provide that the working hours, exclusive of meal time, of local shop assistants should not exceed nine hours a day or 56 hours a week.

The Labour (Minimum Wage) (Agricultural Labourers) (Amendment) Order, S.R. & O. No. 19 of 1950, came into operation on 1st September, 1950. The order increased the rates of wages payable to agricultural workers.

No legislation exists for the provision of sickness and old age benefits. Most persons join friendly societies which pay sick benefits.

A summary of the labour legislation in the Colony appears at Appendix III.

Chapter 3 : Public Finance and Taxation

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE, 1950

<i>Revenue</i>		<i>Expenditure</i>	
	\$ ¢		\$ ¢
1. Import Duties .	678,387.23	1. Governor .	8,060.72
2. Export Duties .	80,221.04	2. Legislature .	10,129.93
3. Excise Duties .	128,212.06	3. Administration .	121,711.15
4. Other Duties .	104,325.87	4. Agriculture .	119,516.05
5. Licences .	29,361.86	5. Audit .	10,544.74
6. Taxes .	241,883.86	6. Central Housing .	34,872.26
7. Harbour Dues .	39,474.61	7. Charitable .	—
8. Other Fees of Court &c. .	56,740.71	9. Education .	147,348.45
9. Post Office .	84,744.46	10. Electricity .	—
10. Telephones &c. .	312,180.98	11. Judicial .	18,615.05
11. Rent and Interest .	48,390.56	12. Labour .	5,738.48
Total Ordinary Revenue .	1,803,923.24	13. Lands and Survey .	20,806.24
		14. Legal .	18,105.32
12. Sales of Crown Lands .	1,216.74	15. Medical .	190,183.17
Total Local Revenue .	1,805,139.98	16. Miscellaneous .	405,304.25
		17. Pensions .	63,908.60
		18. Police .	148,770.45
		19. Port and Marine .	22,235.26
		20. Post Office .	53,076.91
		21. Prisons .	31,895.49
		22. Public Debt .	102,206.34
		23. Public Library .	—
		24. Public Works Department .	38,477.53
		25. Public Works Annually Re- current .	194,859.20
		27. Social Welfare .	22,273.20
		28. Subventions .	11,580.00
		29. Supply Control .	14,808.92
		30. Telephones .	27,484.94
		31. Treasury .	67,682.15
		Total Ordinary Expenditure .	1,910,194.80
		Extraordinary.	
		26. Public Works .	58,823.10
		Total Local Expenditure .	1,969,017.90
		Colonial Develop- ment & Welfare Schemes .	1,295,432.60
Total .	2,957,293.87	Total .	3,264,450.50

There was an adjustment in the heads of revenue and expenditure in 1950 and they are, therefore, not exactly comparable with previous years. Actual figures for the years 1947-49 are given below.

REVENUE FOR 1947, 1948 AND 1949

<i>Heads of Revenue</i>	1949 \$	1948 \$	1947 \$
1. Customs : Import Duties	684,054	653,047	569,435
Export Duties	67,400	58,614	65,992
2. Port, Harbour, &c., Dues	25,322	14,637	12,769
3. Excise	145,823	153,706	136,460
4. Licences, &c.			
1. Spirits, &c.	25,705	22,072	22,888
5. Trade duty on spirits	49,919	47,562	42,804
6. Stamp duty : Various revenue services	6,318	5,527	5,226
7. Succession duty	5,259	5,086	9,199
8. Fines and forfeitures of Courts	11,702	7,503	6,302
9. Revenue seizures and pen- alties	38	809	100
10. Cess on citrus products	217	24	13
11. Cess on Bananas	5	180	116
12. Income Tax	253,075	168,165	154,594
13. Rural House Tax	5,620	4,297	4,102
14. Entertainment Tax	74	100	139
15. Recruiting Agents	76	131	335
5. Fees of Court or Office, &c.	53,838	54,174	39,387
6. Post Office	291,138	131,505	75,227
7. Telephone	7,344	8,279	9,512
8. Rent of Government Property	22,257	7,784	2,090
9. Interest	14,976	14,829	17,372
10. Municipal and other Loans, &c.	2,932	12,439	4,926
11. Miscellaneous Receipts	188,191	14,281	33,086
Total Ordinary Revenue	1,861,283	1,384,751	1,212,074
12. Land Sales	2,739	1,078	4,784
Total Local Revenue	1,864,022	1,385,829	1,216,858
13. C.D. & W. SCHEMES	981,130	364,849	140,362
Total Revenue	2,845,152	1,750,678	1,357,220

EXPENDITURE FOR 1947, 1948 AND 1949

<i>Heads of Expenditure</i>	1949 \$	1948 \$	1947 \$
1. Charges on account of Public Debt	38,173	38,173	38,173
2. Pensions and Gratuities	53,520	44,476	48,709
3. Governor	8,970	13,130	8,332
3A. Legislature	6,637	10,500	5,945
4. Administration	101,670	87,373	65,616
5. Agriculture and Forests	63,792	122,696	76,195
6. Audit Department	10,978	9,774	8,432
8. Ecclesiastical	11,520	11,520	7,680
9. Education	135,388	122,086	121,743
10. Labour Department	5,586	8,008	4,224
11. Lands and Survey Department	16,630	12,776	13,595
12. Legal Department	36,468	41,289	33,710
13. Local Forces	—	6	3,000
14. Medical Department	173,537	162,970	145,607
15. Miscellaneous Services	151,426	139,743	96,507
16. Police	134,731	105,170	83,397
17. Port and Marine Department	19,565	17,992	16,799
18. Post Office	45,384	31,247	21,466
19. Prisons	36,988	31,618	25,089
20. Public Works Department	39,940	36,696	21,187
21. Public Works Recurrent	241,620	533,261	297,672
22. Telephone Department	30,566	16,153	15,367
23. Treasury, Customs and Inland Revenue	64,324	56,760	50,119
25. Central Housing and Planning Authority	—	3,047	689
26. Post War Expenditure	160,380	168,421	169,586
Total Ordinary Expenditure	1,587,793	1,824,885	1,378,839
<i>Extraordinary</i>			
4A. Administration	527	557	940
5A. Agriculture	59,815	—	1,219
16A. Police Department	4,779	85	6,419
20A. Public Works Department	72,964	36,575	37,439
22A. Telephone Department	—	—	3,273
Total Local Expenditure	1,725,878	1,862,102	1,428,130
27. Expenditure from Surplus Balances	110,306	88,292	—
28. C.D. & W. Schemes	1,033,813	447,073	133,581
Total Expenditure	2,869,997	2,397,467	1,561,711

The statements of assets and liabilities for 1949 and 1950 are given below. There was an excess of liabilities over assets of \$743,695.94 at 31st December, 1949, and of \$1,058,375.71 at 31st December, 1950.

1949

LIABILITIES		ASSETS	
	\$		\$
Special Funds . . .	2,943,949.84	Cash . . .	34,463.28
Deposits . . .	80,899.43	Post Office . . .	11,631.86
Towns and Villages . .	2,050.49	Advances . . .	1,063,549.35
Drafts and Remittances .	171,912.52	Joint Colonial Fund . .	748,800.00
Intercolonial Accounts .	24,650.25	Castries Town Board . .	111,346.95
Surplus—		Towns and Villages . .	8,821.02
Reserve Fund . . .	456,000.00	Investments . . .	906,957.07
		Bank Deposits . . .	50,197.06
		General Revenue	
		Balance A/c. (Deficit)	743,695.94
	<u>\$3,679,462.53</u>		<u>\$3,679,462.53</u>

1950

LIABILITIES		ASSETS	
	\$		\$
Special Funds . . .	2,132,647.35	Cash . . .	93,736.02
Towns and Villages . .	2,055.44	Advances . . .	1,655,246.62
Drafts and Remittances .	4,792.85	Castries Town Board . .	154,802.01
Deposits miscellaneous .	63,910.59	Towns and Villages . .	15,056.01
Intercolonial Accounts .	24,650.25	Investments . . .	997,915.15
Joint Colonial Fund . .	1,296,000.00	Bank Deposits . . .	14,436.25
Post Office Account . .	9,511.29	General Revenue	
Surplus—		Balance Account	
Reserve Fund . . .	456,000.00	(Deficit) . . .	1,058,375.71
	<u>\$3,989,567.77</u>		<u>\$3,989,567.77</u>

STATEMENT OF THE PUBLIC DEBT AT 31ST DECEMBER, 1948

Description of Debt or Loan	Amount of Original Loan	When Incurred and Purpose	Amount Outstanding	Rate of Interest	Provision for Repayment and Legal Authority	Date Payable	Amount of Sinking Fund		Remarks
							Amount of Stock	Value of Stock	
Debt Reduction Loan	\$ 345,501.30	1926—Repaying Advances made by the Crown Agents	\$ 345,501.30	5%	Ordinance No. 10 of 1925	1951	\$ 267,360.94	\$ 284,017.52	
Loan Conversion Loan	79,903.76	1939—For payment of 5% local loan, cap. 62 of 1916 Revised Laws; 5% loan for construction of Baron Wing at Victoria Hospital; Ordinance No. 3 of 1917; 5% local loan, Ordinance No. 10 of 1918; Purchase of Baron Asylum, cap. 73 of 1916 Revised Laws.	79,903.76	3½%	Ordinance No. 24 of 1938	1959	31,405.10	32,821.06	
Land Settlement Loan, C.D. & W. Scheme 18 D.497.	115,200.00	1945—For the purchase of certain lands belonging to the Barbados Settlement Co. Ltd., in the Vieux Fort Area.	115,200.00		Loan free of interest in the first instance. Terms of repayment to be considered later. No statutory authority.				
Black Bay Estate Acquisition Loan, C.D. & W. Scheme D.376	47,136.00	1945—For the purchase of certain lands belonging to the Barbados Settlement Co. Ltd.	47,136.00	3½%	Free of interest for the first 5 years, then repayment by 15 equated annuities. No statutory authority.				
Loan from Government of St. Vincent for Fire Relief, 1948	120,000.00	1948—For Castries Fire Relief.	120,000.00		Free of interest. Repayable in 10 years.				
	\$707,741.06		\$707,741.06				\$298,766.04	\$316,838.58	

STATEMENT OF THE PUBLIC DEBT AT 31ST DECEMBER, 1949

Description of Debt or Loan	Amount of Original Loan	When Incurred and Purpose	Amount Outstanding	Rate of Interest	Provision for Repayment and Legal Authority	Date Payable	Amount of Sinking Fund		Remarks
							Amount of Stock	Value of Stock	
Debt Reduction Loan 1926	\$ 345,501.30	1926—Repaying Advances made by Crown Agents	\$ 345,501.30	5%	Ordinance No. 10 of 1925	1951	\$ 292,542.38	\$ 301,043.17	Loan free of interest in the first instance. Terms of repayment to be considered later.
Loan Conversion Loan 1939	79,903.76	1939—For payment of 5% local loan, cap. 62 of 1916 Revised Laws; 5% loan for construction of Baron Wing at Victoria Hospital, Ordinance No. 3 of 1917; 5% local loan, Ordinance No. 10 of 1918; purchase of Baron Asylum, cap. 73 of 1916 Revised Laws	79,903.76	3½%	Ordinance No. 24 of 1938	1959	35,207.84	35,329.20	
Land Settlement Loan Colonial Development & Welfare Scheme D. 497	115,200.00	1945—For the purchase of certain lands belonging to the Barbados Settlement Co. Ltd. in the Vieux Fort Area	115,200.00		See notes under these heads for 1948				Loan free of interest for the first five years, then repayment by 15 equal annuities. No statutory authority. Free of interest repayable in 10 years.
Black Bay Estate Acquisition Loan. Colonial Development & Welfare Scheme D 376	47,136.06	1945—For the purchase of certain lands belonging to the Barbados Settlement Co., Ltd.	47,136.06	3½%					
Loan from Government of St. Vincent for Fire Relief, 1948	120,000.00	1948—For Castries Fire Relief	120,000.00		Ordinance No. 9 of 1949	1965/70			Interest at 3½% payable after 3 years.
Castries Reconstruction Loan	1,958,400.00	1949—For re-lending to persons for private rebuilding whose houses were destroyed by fire on 19-20 June, 1948. For sewerage and housing scheme for the town of Castries	1,958,400.00	3½%					
Vide Bouette Housing Scheme Loan from Colonial Development and Welfare D.1212	21,600.00	1949—For housing Vide Bouette area	21,600.00	3½%					
	\$2,687,741.06		\$2,687,741.06				\$327,750.22	\$336,372.37	

MAIN HEADS OF TAXATION

Taxation Yields

	1950	1949	1948	1947	1946	1945
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Import Duties	678,387	684,054	653,047	569,435	501,269	464,107
Export Duties	80,221	67,400	58,614	65,992	53,758	58,710
Excise Duty on { Rum { Sugar }	121,862	132,826	131,591	120,025	116,438	114,940
Trade Duty on Spirits	6,350	12,997	22,115	16,435	40,560	42,451
Income Tax	83,864	49,919	47,562	42,804	42,019	41,280
Succession Duty	235,157	253,075	168,165	154,594	132,485	109,276
Rural House Tax	12,395	5,259	5,086	9,199	4,910	3,835
Stamp Duty	527	5,620	4,297	4,102	4,044	4,281
	8,067	6,318	5,527	5,226	4,829	4,929

Import Duties

Ad valorem and specific rates of duty are paid on imports of food, drink, and tobacco, raw materials and unmanufactured articles, and articles wholly or mainly manufactured ; specific rates are paid on animals not for food ; bullion and specie are exempted.

The principal imports of food, drink and tobacco are beer and stout, grain (rice, flour, cornmeal and other cereals), preserves, milk, pickled meats, hams and bacon, tea, coffee, tobacco, cigarettes and edible fats, butter and lard. These come mainly from Canada, the United Kingdom, the United States of America, British Guiana and Brazil.

The main imports of raw materials and unmanufactured articles are leather and lumber which come from Canada and the United States of America. Those of articles wholly or mainly manufactured are wearing apparel, cotton piece-goods, hardware, machinery, medicines, metals, paints and colours, and other manufactures of wood and timber, which come from Canada, the United Kingdom and the United States of America.

Animals (not for food) come mainly from Canada and include horses and asses for breeding purposes.

Bullion and specie are imported from Trinidad.

The cost of goods for the purpose of ascertaining the amount of *ad valorem* duty payable is calculated on the price charged for the goods by the vendor and verified by the genuine invoice of such goods. The calculation is based upon all charges on such goods up to the time of their arrival in the Colony ; if the goods have been procured otherwise than by bona-fide purchase the *ad valorem* duty is calculated on the actual market value of such goods in the Colony at the time the goods are removed from bond.

Articles imported by or for the use of Her Majesty's Naval or Military Forces, the Police Force, Girl Guide and Boy Scout Association, the Colonial Government, the Governor or the Administrator, and municipal authorities, and several other articles listed under Ordinance No. 8 of 1940, for the purpose of encouraging trade and commerce, local agriculture and scientific investigation, are exempted from payment of import duty. A preference of approximately one-third is in

many cases allowed on goods of Commonwealth origin. The margin of preference is fixed by agreement.

The Governor in Council may remit or authorise the exemption of import duty or refund in whole or in part any customs duty payable or paid by any person or on any goods not specified in the table of exemptions in the 1940 Ordinance.

Export Duties

Export duties are collected on exports from the Colony of which the main are charcoal, cocoa, coconuts and copra, firewood, fruit, honey, lime products and sugar.

Export prices are for the purposes of the collection of duty fixed by an Export Prices Committee under the chairmanship of the Collector of Customs. For all items except firewood and charcoal the duty is on a sliding scale. A cess is levied on bananas.

Excise Duties

As may have been seen from an examination of the main heads of revenue and the yields therefrom, excise duty on rum maintains a special place. This duty amounts to \$1.56 per proof gallon charged on spirits made in the Colony.

The excise duty on sugar is of far less value and is levied at the rate of \$9.98 per ton on clear sugar manufactured and consumed in the Colony.

The Governor in Council is empowered to remit the whole or any part of the duty payable if he is satisfied that it would be just and equitable to do so.

Income Tax

The yield from income tax was \$253,075 in 1949 and \$235,134 in 1950 as compared with \$168,165 in 1948. Income tax rates vary on a sliding scale from 12 cents on every \$4.80 of the first \$480 to \$3.12 on every \$4.80 above \$24,000. The tax upon the chargeable income of a company is charged at the rate of \$1.56 on every \$4.80. The rates are contained in Section 23 of the Income Tax Ordinance 1947, No. 8 of 1948, which came into operation on 1st January, 1948.

Estate Duty

Where death occurs in the Colony the person accountable for succession duty is required within three months after the death to deliver to the Treasurer a declaration of the value of the estate of the deceased. Where death occurs out of the Colony, the period is six months. The Treasurer may under certain circumstances extend the period for a further three months or six months in the respective cases referred to and any further delays may be granted on application to the Judge.

Succession duty is collected on all estates in excess of \$480, but half

rate only is payable in respect of successions passing to the wife of the deceased, the mother or the lawful son or daughter.

Rural House Tax

Taxes on houses situated outside the limits of any town or village are assessed on the annual rental value, and range from \$1·80 on a house the annual rental value of which is not less than \$28·80 and does not exceed \$36·00, to \$4·80 on a house of a rental value of \$60·00 and not exceeding \$72·00 and 7 per cent on a house the rental value of which is over \$96·00 per annum.

The assessment is made by the Tax Officer and the tax may be paid into the Treasury or to a Rural House Tax Bailiff. Payment can be enforced in a summary manner before the inferior Courts.

Stamp Duties

Stamp duties are collected on most commercial instruments at a rate fixed under the Stamp Duty Ordinance.

Chapter 4 : Currency and Banking

Trinidad notes, Barclays Bank notes and Sterling coin were in circulation in 1949 and 1950.

During 1949 and 1950 note circulation in St. Lucia was as follows : Barclays Bank (D.C. & O.) notes 1949—\$128,280 ; 1950—\$140,960, Trinidad Government notes 1949—\$457,140 ; 1950—\$477,140. The amount of coin in circulation is unknown.

Following a Currency Conference held in Barbados in May, 1946, it was decided to establish a unified system of currency notes and coin for Barbados, British Guiana, the Leeward Islands, Trinidad and Tobago and the Windward Islands. The new notes were introduced in Autumn 1951, but a date has not yet been fixed for the introduction of the new coins.

Government and other public accounts used to be kept in sterling, but a change was made in January, 1948, to dollars.

There are three banks operating in the Colony : Barclays Bank (D.C. & O.), the St. Lucia Co-operative Bank Ltd., and the Government Savings Bank of which branches exist at Soufrière, Vieux Fort, Dennery Gros Islet and Anse la Raye and Micoud.

The St. Lucia Co-operative Bank Ltd. was established in 1937 with an authorised capital of \$150,000. The total number of depositors in 1949 and 1950 was 1,211 and 1,297 respectively, holding \$739,575 and \$966,705 respectively. The bank which does a fair business in small short-term loans declared a dividend of 9 per cent in 1949 and 10 per cent in 1950. It has been found necessary to limit the issue of shares to new applicants to a maximum of 50.

Chapter 5 : Commerce

Total imports amounted to \$6,363,422 in 1950, \$5,248,187 in 1949 and \$3,720,472 in 1948. The continued increase in the value of imports should not, however, be taken to indicate increased home consumption, except in building materials for the reconstruction of Castries, but rather due to the continued arrival of replacements of stock destroyed in the Castries Fire of 1948 and to the devaluation of the pound in September, 1949, with consequent rise in prices.

The United Kingdom continued to be the largest supplier, while the Dominion of Canada was and continues to be the only source of wheaten flour, an item of vital importance, and incidentally the largest single item of imported food.

The main imports for 1948, 1949 and 1950 were :

	1948	1949	1950
	\$	\$	\$
Boots and shoes	94,337	125,693	118,506
Cotton piece-goods	467,384	195,186	301,330
Cotton, other	39,193	63,065	42,508
Fish, dried	155,914	194,083	158,180
Flour (wheaten)	337,267	416,487	454,828
Hardware	98,354	148,070	118,748
Kerosene	18,923	18,923	17,004
Meat, salted	46,039	71,694	76,552
Motor vehicles	124,274	140,531	136,099
Motor vehicle parts	11,965	57,852	72,406
Motor spirits	45,764	57,807	54,173
Rice	28,984	41,528	38,105

The percentage and value of imports from the main supplying countries were :

	1942	1943	1944	1945*	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
United Kingdom	38.3	32.6	16.9	15.8	22.7	21.8	34.6	48.4	55.3
Canada	—	—	—	42.4	40.1	37.2	28.8	21.6	14.2
Other parts of the Commonwealth	44.6	48.3	58.4	23.0	16.6	14.6	12.7	14.0	17.1
United States of America	5.1	10.4	18.0	16.7	19.0	25.0	22.6	13.8	7.0
Other Foreign Countries	12.0	8.7	6.8	2.1	1.6	1.4	1.3	2.2	6.4

* These percentages are approximate.

The values of imports according to countries of origin were :

	1948	1949	1950
	\$	\$	\$
United Kingdom	1,286,366	2,540,519	3,518,721
Canada	1,070,424	1,135,509	900,617
Other parts of the Commonwealth	472,728	736,106	1,091,315
United States of America	840,859	722,254	447,413
Other Foreign Countries	50,095	113,799	405,356
	<u>\$3,720,472</u>	<u>\$5,248,187</u>	<u>\$6,363,422</u>

The total value of exports was \$2,130,811 in 1950, \$1,488,858 in 1949 and \$1,388,561 in 1948. The marked increase in 1950 is due to the rise in the price of copra, and the sale of cocoa in hard currency areas coupled with a slight increase in production.

Percentages of exports to countries of destination :

	1942	1943	1944	1945*	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
United Kingdom	61.37	32.65	14.83	52	39.3	37	50.31	56.01	60.37
Canada	4.43	0.11	0.01	5	0.23	—	0.3	2.62	0.82
Other parts of the Commonwealth	30.06	50.87	49.34	42	54.6	35	29.11	27.90	27.55
United States of America	4.14	0.05	0.01	1	2.9	27	20.39	13.83	9.50
Other Foreign Countries	—	16.32	35.81	—	3.1	1	0.16	2.00	1.76

* These percentages are approximate.

AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS EXPORTED DURING 1948, 1949 AND 1950

		1948		1949		1950	
		Quantities	Value \$	Quantities	Value \$	Quantities	Value \$
Sugar Products :							
Sugar, Vacuum Pan	tons	6,568	659,031	7,516	819,462	8,629	1,147,120
Molasses	galls.	160,891	29,918	10,369	1,607	160,625	15,548
Cocoa Products :							
Cocoa Raw	lb.	570,752	214,430	629,776	183,300	578,256	254,331
Lime Products :							
Raw Lime Juice	galls.	12,764	8,620	5,519	4,866	9,951	6,671
Distilled Lime Oil	lb.	2,972	11,494	249	1,648	1,454	7,047
Hand Pressed Lime Oil	lb.	175	1,400	—	—	—	—
Green Limes	brls.	77	159	100	820	123	1,189
Coconut Products :							
Coconuts	no.	415,715	12,505	251,100	7,662	147,365	35,680
Coconut Plants	no.	13,506	491	9,330	1,081	—	—
Copra	lb.	2,266,712	199,373	2,595,075	242,873	2,360,735	245,863
Coconut Oil	galls.	n.a.	n.a.	40,105	67,071	46,545	87,554
Honey Products :							
Honey	lb.	148,958	16,682	108,465	10,317	77,107	7,199
Spices :							
Nutmegs	lb.	20,395	11,048	14,280	5,612	21,689	21,694
Cinnamon	lb.	3,419	1,574	442	197	—	—
Mace	lb.	2,537	2,914	1,707	1,106	3,365	8,478
Ginger	lb.	172	16	288	33	1,204	105
Vanilla	lb.	161	800	107	300	156	451
Cotton Products :							
Sea Island Cotton	lb.	1,700	826	12,445	11,449	21,000	15,600
Fresh Fruit Products :							
Tamarinds	lb.	24,900	2,483	1,568	110	—	—
Bananas	bches.	2,033	2,079	119	148	2,157	3,968
Grapefruit	crates	5,256	271	21	116	81	174
Oranges	crates	17,183	417	79	233	90	439
Mixed Fruits		—	33,250	—	2,246	—	—
Forest Products :							
Boards (native)	cu. ft.	—	247	—	240	—	—
Firewood	cords	475	2,519	253	1,563	170	697
Hardwood		—	57	—	9	—	5,521
Charcoal	bags	37,954	29,262	27,130	25,706	19,270	18,347
Live Stock & Products :							
Mules	no.	14	2,180	2	80	—	—
Horses	no.	10	4,560	1	72	—	—
Hides and Skins	lb.	—	1,214	34,636	2,658	—	—

Chapter 6 : Production

AGRICULTURE

In the absence of statistics of production and domestic consumption of crops, figures of exports are the only guide to local production from year to year. A table of the principal agricultural exports is given in Chapter 5.

The total value of agricultural exports has continued its upward trend, the increase in 1950 being mainly due to an increase in the quantities of sugar products, cacao, spices and lime products. It is, however, estimated that there are at least sixty thousand acres of land which either remain completely idle and uncropped or which are subjected to periodic exploitation under a system of shifting cultivation, with attendant low yields. There is, therefore, great need for increased capital investment in agricultural undertakings, coupled with greater local effort and enterprise.

Sugar

The manufacture of sugar still remains the most important agricultural enterprise in the Colony, and there has been a substantial increase in the tonnage of sugar manufactured over the past four years. Production is, however, still 1,500 tons short of the pre-war export quota of 10,000 tons per annum. During the period 1948-50, there has been a substantial increase in the mechanisation of sugar cane cultivation, accompanied by an increase both in the quantity and variety of mineral fertiliser applied to the cane crop. A very encouraging feature of 1950 has been the keen interest which some sugar producers have shown in sugar cane varietal and manurial experiments, and in the possibilities of increasing the economic value of the existing sugar cane acreage by manufacturing by-products such as sugar cane wax. It is expected that these recent departures from the outmoded cultural practices, coupled with the benefits to be derived from varietal experimentation and selection, will cause further and more substantial increases in the economic value of the sugar industry. In view of the limited area suitable for an expansion of sugar production, the main prospects for development in this industry lie in the intensification of production on existing sugar estates.

Cacao

The existing high prices now paid for cacao beans have caused a revival of interest in this crop. Cacao fields, which had long since been abandoned, have within recent years been cleaned and tended. There is a keen demand for cacao plants derived from the tested Trinidad selections made by the Imperial College of Tropical Agriculture. Further progress has been made with the establishment of a local cacao propagation centre under Colonial Development and Welfare Scheme D. 800. Two propagator units have been completed and

are in full operation. Nine hundred rooted cuttings of clonal material were distributed during 1950, and there were at the end of the year another 5,000 plants in various stages of growth prior to their delivery to cultivators. This scheme was designed to permit the distribution of some 24,000 plants annually, sufficient for the establishment of 60 acres of cacao each year, based upon a survey of requirements in 1945. Because of the great increase in the demand for cacao plants of selected clonal material, the output of plants envisaged at the inauguration of the scheme is now quite clearly inadequate for the needs of cultivators. Attempts to increase the annual output of plants have included the substitution of the more exacting method of plant production by means of leaf cuttings in place of the original stem-cutting technique, and the provision of extra improvised accommodation for the larger number of plants now being produced. Plans for the production of cacao plants under the "open bed" system are also being implemented.

Coconut Products

There has been a decrease during 1950 in the quantities of whole nuts and copra exported. The coconut industry is subject to a regional agreement whereby the entire export crop of copra is processed in the neighbouring island of Barbados. During 1950, work was begun on the erection of a copra processing factory near the town of Soufrière. This factory is scheduled for completion in 1951, when the production of coconut oil, with coconut meal as a by-product, is expected to begin. The production of large quantities of coconut meal suitable for stock feed is likely to have a stimulating effect on livestock production locally.

Bananas

During 1949 and 1950, considerable interest was shown in the revival of the pre-war banana export trade. The negotiation of a contract between a local association representative of potential banana producers and a banana purchasing and shipping firm was begun, and it is expected that initial shipments of bananas of the Lacatan variety will begin during 1951. Meanwhile, some planters have imported banana plants from the islands of Martinique, Guadeloupe and Dominica and Government has distributed 33,000 imported plants and 21,000 purchased locally. Over 120,000 plants are known to have been planted. During the latter half of 1950, a pathological condition resembling *Cercospora* leaf spot was noticed in increasing quantity on several banana plots. Measures aimed at the control of this menace to banana production are under active consideration.

Cotton

Mainly because of the stimulus afforded by the importation of tractors and heavy mechanical tillage implements, the acreage under cotton rose to 266 acres during 1948. Exports in 1949 and 1950 were considerably higher than in 1948 ; 21,000 lb of cotton were exported in 1950 and 12,445 in 1949 compared with 1,700 lb in 1948. Although

the mechanised equipment for maintaining and increasing the acreages under cotton has remained available, there has been a substantial decrease in the acreages planted during 1950, which is mainly due to lack of adequate working capital and apprehension regarding the continuity of supply of labour for a crop whose labour demands are exacting and which is very susceptible to changes in weather conditions and attacks of insect pests and diseases. The strain of cotton being grown is that known as Montserrat Sea Island, and the quality of the lint produced has received favourable comment by the Shirley Institute which undertook spinning tests for comparison with other West Indian growths.

Lime Products

The value of lime products exported during 1950 was twice that of the export value of these products during 1949 (\$14,900 compared with \$7,300). In spite of this increase, however, the export value of this once important crop remains negligible.

Land Settlement

The establishment of permanent land settlements is at the moment confined to the work in progress under Colonial Development and Welfare Scheme No. D. 947. Under this scheme, 503 tenants have been placed in occupation of approximately 1,200 acres of land on the periphery of a Government-operated central farm of some 500 acres. In the peasant occupied area, rice and other food crops have been grown, mainly for family consumption. The central farm was designed to provide wage employment during the initial period before the small holders became self-sufficient. The scheme was approved for a term of three years ending in May, 1951. The area has proved so unsuitable for cultivation with the available crops that consideration is being given to its reservation for livestock raising. With the cessation of wage employment it is likely that re-adjustments and re-arrangement of the smallholdings will be required in order to provide a size of holding more appropriate to the needs and labour resources of the tenant family. There will also be an opportunity to establish a large livestock station designed to improve the island's livestock.

ANIMAL HUSBANDRY

Improved breeds of horses, donkeys, bulls, sheep, goats and pigs have been used for stud purposes at various centres throughout the island. Improved stock has also been imported by private persons. Improvement in the quality and performance of local animals is now beginning to make itself apparent, especially in the larger dairies and piggeries. Increasing interest is being taken in dairying and butter making, and there has been some success in the manufacture of cheese, bacon and ham on a small but increasing scale. Not only is the manufacture of pork products a promising line of development, but it has filled a significant gap in domestic consumption which has

resulted from shortage of imported supplies. The first electric milker imported during 1948 has continued to be used with satisfaction. Other dairies are now negotiating for the purchase of electrical milking units.

With the improvement and increase in the quality and numbers of livestock in the island, there is increasing need for the services of a resident veterinary surgeon. Proposals are now on foot for the recruitment of a local candidate who is completing the full veterinary course in Canada.

FORESTRY

Charcoal continues to dwarf other forest products in export value. There has, however, been an increase during 1950 in the export of hardwood to neighbouring islands. The stimulus provided by the large-scale reconstruction programme in Castries has resulted in a considerable increase in the quantity and value of timber extracted from Crown lands for local use in building. During the years 1948, 1949 and 1950, the amount extracted under the supervision of the Forestry Division was 504,022, 560,288 and 412,603 board feet respectively. The significance of this local extraction of timber will be appreciated when it is mentioned that, in 1949 when large supplies of timber were required in the reconstruction of Castries, only 117,000 board feet were imported.

Colonial Development and Welfare funds have enabled members of the forestry staff to receive further training in forestry in Trinidad, and in 1950 another member went to England on a two-year course of study in practical forestry. It is hoped that the return of these officers to the Forestry Department will cause a further improvement in the organisation of the forest protection service, silviculture and the systematic exploitation of the island's timber resources.

FISHING

The encouragement of the fishing industry has continued under Colonial Development and Welfare Scheme D. 607.

CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES

At the end of 1950 there were the following co-operative societies :

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|----------------|
| 2 Consumer Societies (one registered) | |
| 4 Credit Unions (two registered) | |
| 1 Transport Society | |
| 1 Beekeepers Society | |
| 1 Livestock Society | |
| 1 Cane Farmers Association | } unregistered |
| 1 Copra Processing Society | |
| 1 Fishermen's Society | |

In addition there are savings unions attached to various clubs and schools. Study groups have been formed to consider various types of

co-operative endeavour, including house building. In 1948, attempts were made to form co-partnership societies to include woodworkers, tailors, shoemakers, and goldsmiths which failed owing to lack of capital.

The share capital of these societies total \$15,400 and the membership 690.

Legislation

In 1946, the Secretary of State's memorandum on the development of the co-operative movement in colonial dependencies urged the setting up of the proper legal framework and machinery for the supervision and promotion of co-operatives. The Co-operative Societies Ordinance, No. 17 of 1946, was proclaimed law on 17th June, 1948, together with the Co-operative Societies Regulations (Statutory Rules & Orders of 11th June, 1948.) This legislation was based upon a model ordinance and regulations, modified to suit local conditions.

St. Lucia was the first British dependency in the Caribbean to have a comprehensive ordinance to cover all types of co-operation, and the St. Lucia regulations are unique in co-operative legislation in that they make it compulsory for each society to set up an education committee to promote co-operative education among its members. This legislation repealed earlier enactments, namely, the Agricultural Credit Societies Ordinances, which provide for Raffeisen types of organisations of unlimited liability.

Consumers' Societies

The consumers' society which has been registered suffered a setback in trade as both its shops were destroyed in the Castries fire in 1948 ; fortunately, its capital net loss was small as the stocks were insured. Temporary premises were quickly built and trading recommenced a month after the shops were destroyed. The society was handicapped through lack of trained staff. Another consumer society has been formed among some clerical workers, but has not yet been registered. These consumer societies are slow in growth.

Credit Societies

The credit societies are based upon the credit union system of North America. Most of the capital is held in shares subscribed in instalments, which encourages thrift, and shares are withdrawable if due notice is given. There were negligible cases of withdrawals. Loans to members are made only for productive or provident purposes and in 1948, 50 per cent of these loans were for agricultural purposes. The Co-operative Law makes provision for loans to societies by Government, but no Government credit was used in 1950. Two societies, not yet registered, exist at Saltibus and Dennery.

Marketing and Producers' Societies

The idea of co-operative marketing was discussed with various groups of producers throughout the island, and great caution exercised

to ensure that the future organisations would be based upon sound economic foundations. One society (not yet registered) at Laborie operated a co-operative copra kiln. The members pool their crop of coconuts which is made into copra and sold to the local coconut growers association. A beekeepers' co-operative association was started in October with the object of pooling and exporting honey. Preliminary work was done among peasants, rice-growers, and fishermen, and some cane-farmers in the Dennery area built a "co-operative" road to enable easier disposal of their sugar-cane crop, which was estimated to be 1,400 tons. A livestock co-operative union was registered in 1949, and has an island-wide membership.

Transport Societies

A transport society was registered at the end of 1948. This society was formed to obtain a better and cheaper bus service between Vigie and Castries, and consequently an order for a passenger-bus chassis was placed in the United Kingdom. Trade slackened in 1950 as members had bought cars or went to live in the town of Castries.

Chapter 7 : Social Services

EDUCATION

In 1949 there were 45 primary schools and two secondary schools receiving grants-in-aid from the Government. Of the 45 primary schools, three were Anglican, three Methodist, and 39 Roman Catholic. They had 11,882 children on the roll and an average attendance of 7,751.

In 1950 two new primary schools were completed. One of them, at Augier in the south of the island, is being managed by the Roman Catholic Education Board of Management. The other, at Vide Bouteille near Castries, is the first Government school in the island. They are both designed for 300 children and provide the following accommodation : woodwork room, domestic science room, staff room, senior class room, assembly hall (with movable partitions), infant classroom, and two open-air outdoor classrooms. In addition the school at Augier is provided with a head teacher's house. The total cost of these two schools and the head teacher's house, amounting to \$80,432 was provided by a Colonial Development and Welfare grant.

A third new school was built from Colonial Development and Welfare funds at Monchy in the north of the island and it is designed to accommodate 200 children ranging between the ages of four and 15. Like the school at Augier it is provided with a head teacher's house, and has been entrusted to the Roman Catholic Education Board of Management. The total cost of the school and head teacher's house was \$33,269.

Partly as a result of the opening of the two new schools, the attendance roll increased in 1950 to 13,516 and the average attendance to 8,391.

Primary

In 1949, \$151,162* was expended from Colony funds on primary education, and it is estimated that in 1950 the sum of \$166,730* was spent. These figures exclude the expenses of the Education Department, the cost of which is borne partly from local funds and partly by a grant from Colonial Development and Welfare funds.

In 1949 there were 386 primary school teachers of whom 127 held local certificates for competency (17 being trained), 78 were uncertificated, and 181 were Pupil Teachers. In 1950, 137 held local certificates for competency (25 being trained), 66 were uncertificated, and 180 were pupil teachers. Facilities for teachers included training outside the Colony, local training for intending teachers who follow a three-year course of study at a secondary school before taking up teaching posts in the primary schools, training of pupil teachers by supervising teachers paid from Colonial Development and Welfare funds, and vacation courses for certificated teachers. In 1949, \$105,103, and in 1950, \$85,960 were spent from Colonial Development and Welfare funds for these purposes and for departmental expenses.

In 1949 two teachers returned on completion of six months house-craft training courses in Barbados. Six teachers (three men and three women) attended one year courses at the Government Training College, Trinidad, and Spring Gardens Training College, Antigua, respectively.

Secondary

St. Mary's College, a Roman Catholic boys' secondary school, with a roll of 217, receives an annual grant-in-aid of \$7,200. St. Joseph's Convent, a Roman Catholic girls' secondary school, with a roll of 224, receives an annual grant-in-aid of \$3,767.

The headmaster and three members of the senior staff of the College are Brothers of the Presentation Order, Cork, Eire. They are all university graduates and they also hold diplomas in education. The junior staff consists of non-graduate laymen, but the salary scales have been devised in such a way as to encourage the junior staff to read for the external degrees of the University of London.

Science is being taught and is regularly taken as a subject in the Cambridge examinations. In 1949, for the first time in the history of the College, a student passed the Cambridge Higher School Certificate.

The pressure on class-room space and the lack of playing fields continues to be a serious problem. There is still the hope that it may be possible for the College to be transferred to one of the military barracks at Vigie.

St. Joseph's Convent, the girls' secondary school, is conducted by the Sisters of St. Joseph of Cluny. The Reverend Mother Superior

* Includes cost-of-living bonus, etc.

has had many years experience at the Roman Catholic Training College for teachers in Trinidad, and the headmistress is a university graduate. The staff was strengthened in 1949 by the addition of an honours graduate in history of University College, London.

According to the terms of the grant-in-aid, the College and the Convent are required to have the following free places : Government scholars, 36 ; Castries Town Board scholars, 18 ; Vestry scholars, 2 ; Cure scholars, 2.

Visual Education and Music

During 1949 and 1950 the film projector given by the British Council was used to give shows at schools, clubs, and adult groups in Castries, Vieux-Fort and Soufrière. In addition, use was made of a generator for exhibitions in the districts where no electricity was available. The films shown were either borrowed from the British Council or Central Office of Information, or hired from Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer agents in Trinidad.

The film-strip projectors were used frequently by the two secondary schools. They were also used to project strips for adult groups on football, water-polo, and scenes of St. Lucia and Grenada.

During 1949 the Director of Music continued to supervise the teaching of musical notation and sight reading in all primary schools. At the August vacation course for teachers he also conducted a two-hour class daily for five days for those teachers who were specially interested in music. The post was abolished at the end of 1949. However, in 1950, the Bandmaster of the Police Band arranged a course for teachers.

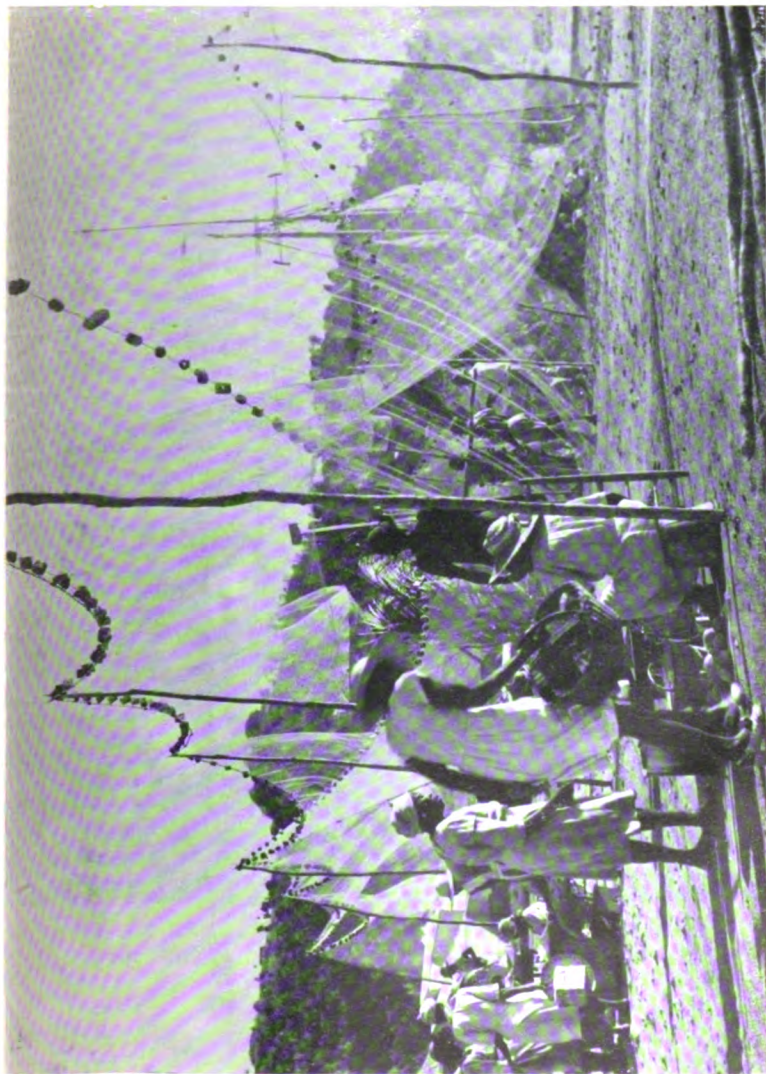
In 1949 and in 1950 courses in art and painting were held for teachers at the vacation courses, and in 1949 a further one-week course for a group of teachers and children was given by the British Council Art Officer.

Adult Education

The Extra-Mural Department of the University College of the West Indies provided courses in subjects varying from art and musical appreciation to economics and building construction. What is a particularly hopeful sign is that the Resident Tutor has undertaken, as from 1950, to give regular courses in English in two of the out-districts, Gros Islet and Soufrière.

A great deal of effective work in adult education can be done through the primary school teachers and, therefore, the Resident Tutor encourages them to attend classes and arranges special lectures for them.

The problem of conquering illiteracy and of making up the deficiencies of a perhaps incomplete primary school education is being tackled here and there by individual groups throughout the island. There is reason to believe, however, that there is a growing awareness of the need for adult education and that in consequence the movement will soon develop an island-wide unity.



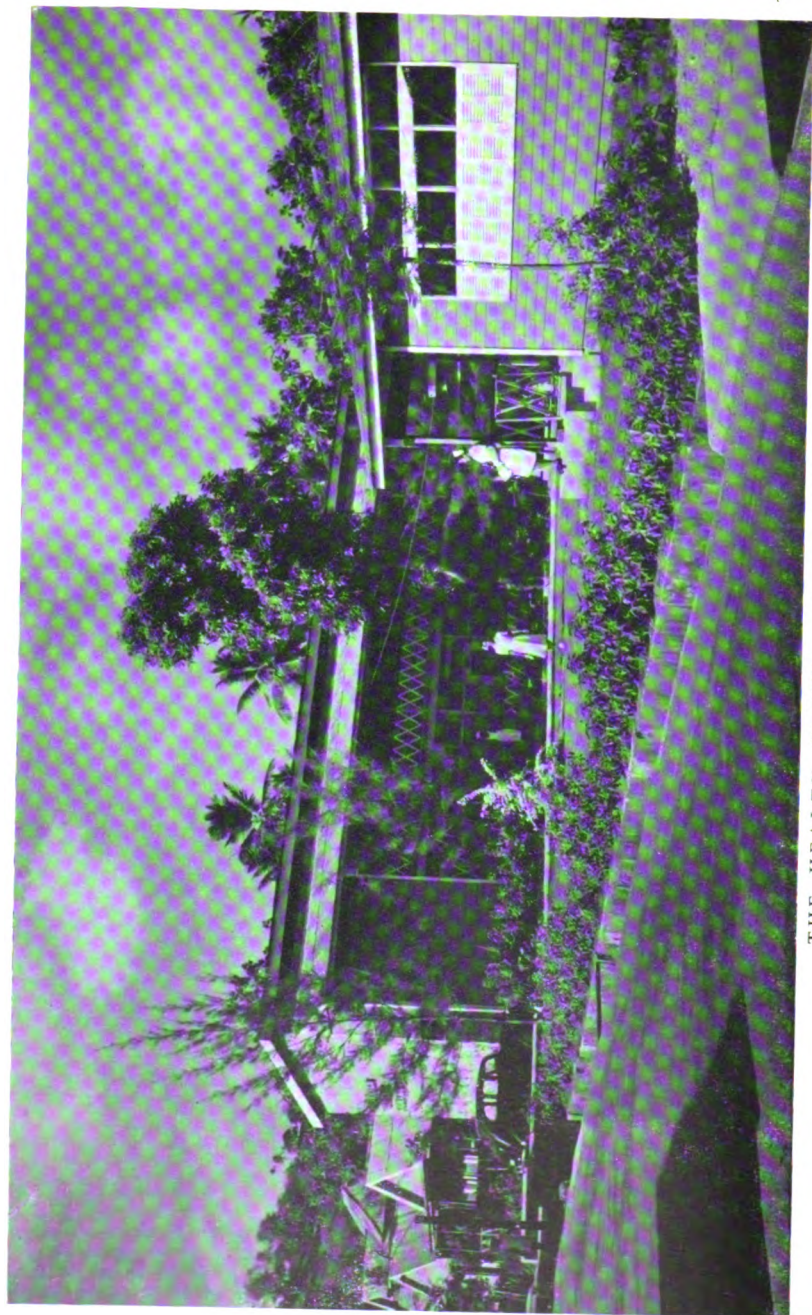
FISHING NETS HANGING ON POSTS TO DRY
Women sit beside them selling vegetables



SULPHUR SPRINGS AT SOUFRIÈRE



A PATH LEADING INLAND ALONG THE SOUFRIÈRE VALLEY
TO PETIT PITON, IN THE BACKGROUND



THE HEALTH CENTRE AT CASTRIES

Higher Education

The Colony provides two types of scholarship for further studies at a university : the St. Lucia Island Scholarship, awarded biennially and valued at \$1,680 per annum, and the St. Lucia Higher Education Scholarship, awarded as need arises and funds permit and valued at \$1,200 per annum. The scholarships are usually tenable at universities for a period not exceeding six years. During 1949 and 1950 there were 13 scholars pursuing courses either in Canada or in the United Kingdom.

In addition there are four scholars with grants from Colonial Development and Welfare funds, undertaking studies in medicine, domestic science and dietetics, agriculture, and for an arts degree. In 1950 one scholar was awarded a scholarship at the Vocational School, University of Puerto Rico, in order to pursue a course in baking.

There are 30 students abroad who are on various courses at their own expense, many of them having worked and saved for years in order to achieve their ambition. The courses being followed by these students range from theology and law to nursing and engineering.

In the island itself, there are a number of persons who prepare by private study and present themselves for the examinations of the University of London and of the College of Preceptors.

Board of Education

A Board of Education consisting of 12 members appointed by Government meets to advise on educational matters under the chairmanship of the Education Officer.

During 1949 the Education Officer retired from the service, and the Inspector of Schools was appointed to act for him. At the beginning of 1950 the Inspector of Schools was appointed Education Officer, but during the whole of 1950 the post of Inspector of Schools was not filled.

Teachers' Union

The Union has held its regular conference and submitted resolutions for the consideration of Government. In January, 1950, two delegates from St. Lucia attended a conference in St. Vincent of delegates of the Windward Islands Teachers' Unions, and a report was subsequently published. In August, 1950, one delegate from St. Lucia attended a conference in British Guiana of delegates of the Caribbean Teachers' Union. Certain resolutions were passed, but the complete report of the conference has not yet been made public.

HEALTH SERVICES

The Medical Services are administered by a Senior Medical Officer, who also undertakes the duties of Medical Officer of Health. There are in addition one Resident Surgeon who is also Medical Superintendent of the Mental Hospital, six District Medical Officers and an Assistant Medical Officer.

The prevalence of the principal groups of diseases in 1949 and 1950 was as follows :

INCIDENCE OF DISEASE

	Malaria 1949-1950		Yaws 1949-1950		Tuberculosis 1949-1950		Influenza 1949-1950		Enteric Fever 1949-1950		Helminthic Disease 1949-1950		Gonorrhoea 1949-1950		Syphilis 1949-1950		Ophthalmic Neonatorum 1949-1950	
	1949	1950	1949	1950	1949	1950	1949	1950	1949	1950	1949	1950	1949	1950	1949	1950	1949	1950
Victoria Hospital	154	122	2	9	19	9	—	—	13	23	46	57	46	43	128	94	5	4
District I.	2,416	1,583	15	128	12	25	62	42	4	3	1,769	1,124	438	344	178	137	40	36
District II.	1,149	1,046	166	150	9	13	469	129	10	5	369	1,237	143	141	47	50	46	19
District IIA.	847	802	10	8	4	6	1	1	—	—	847	740	72	60	40	59	6	2
District III.	302	67	331	261	13	5	63	38	—	—	2,895	4,192	159	142	29	30	16	13
District IV.	2,938	159	97	23	24	16	—	24	1	6	835	649	380	214	560	101	36	30
District V.	1,055	1,049	126	259	5	21	535	164	—	1	1,705	935	515	170	124	47	14	4
TOTALS	8,707	4,706	745	829	67	86	1,130	398	15	15	8,420	8,877	1,707	1,071	978	424	158	104

Note. Cases from Victoria Hospital are not included in the totals since these are already recorded in the District returns.

The Victoria Hospital (100 beds) provides for all the major and most of the minor surgical cases of the Island, and in addition deals with the more serious obstetric and medical cases. In-patient treatment is also provided at the following hospitals :

Soufrière Hospital	20 beds
Vieux Fort „	22 „
Dennerly „	12 „

Out-patient treatment is provided daily at these hospitals, and once weekly at twelve dispensaries.

During 1949 and 1950 four health centres were built from Colonial Development and Welfare funds ; these are situated at Richfond, Mon Repos, La Fargue, and Anse la Raye.

The Castries Health Centre, which was built with funds provided by a Colonial Development and Welfare grant, continues to serve the needs not only of the towns people but also of a very large area around Castries. Some measure of its activities are shown in the following table :

	1949	1950
Attendances at Dispensary	18,634	15,449
Attendances at the V.D. Clinic : Male	3,429	2,574
Female	5,367	4,421
New cases at Ante-natal Clinic	1,104	1,193
Attendance at Infant Welfare Clinic	1,890	1,512
„ „ Dental Clinic	3,115	3,325
Children admitted to Day Nursery	57	36

Public Health

During the two years under review the Public Health Engineering Unit, financed by a grant from the Development and Welfare fund has extended its activities to many parts of the Island.

The Unit reclaimed some swamp land, made drains and relaid water courses in order to reduce mosquito breeding places. Sanitary fittings were built in four country districts and schools and some 16,000 concrete castings were made for private latrines.

Sanitation Department

In addition to the routine work of the department residual D.D.T. spraying was carried out at the three sugar estates of Roseau, Cul-de-Sac and Dennerly and also in the village of Anse la Raye and Gros Islet. Bored hole latrines were installed in the Marchand, La-Pensee and Water Works areas in the neighbourhood of Castries and at the Bexon and Forestierre schools.

Two Sanitary Inspectors were sent to Jamaica for training.

HOUSING

The membership of the Central Housing and Planning Authority

underwent several changes during the period under review owing to resignations and departures from the Colony of various members.

Staff

With the exception of the surveyor-draughtsman, who resigned at the latter part of 1950, there were no changes in the staff.

Schemes

During the years under review the following schemes were in course of execution :

Vide Bouteille Housing Scheme—D 1212. As reported in 1948 an area of approximately 35 acres of the Vide Bouteille estate was expropriated by Government for the establishment of a housing scheme designed to relieve the slum areas of Castries and to make house plots available for the greater part of the former residents of the burnt out area of Castries. No private settlement between the Authority and the land owners being possible, compensation for lands and crops was awarded by a Board of Arbitration in 1950.

This scheme was divided into two parts : Scheme "A"—development of the area to make house lots available, roads, sanitation, electricity and water supply. Scheme "B"—construction of houses, primarily to relieve the slum areas of Castries.

Scheme "A", originally estimated at \$113,652, is not yet complete as water and electricity are still to be supplied. A total of \$87,603 has been spent and the balance is to be spent over an indefinite period as funds are made available. This scheme has been financed entirely from local funds.

Under Scheme "B", 20 houses were built by Messrs. Holland and Hannen and Cubitts Ltd., sub-contractors to the Colonial Development Corporation. These buildings were erected at a cost of approximately \$122,759, and drainage for the area cost \$5,520. The scheme was financed by grant and loan from Colonial Development and Welfare funds. The houses have been completed and all but three of them were tenanted by the end of 1950.

Canaries Housing Scheme. This Development and Welfare scheme made \$6,670 available for the purchase of land and extension of the village of Canaries to relieve overcrowding by demarcating 25 plots in each acre and assisting in the removal of houses thereto. The scheme was satisfactorily completed on the one acre lot purchased and a further area of approximately half an acre is to be added.

Development of Vigie Peninsula. Up to the end of 1950 negotiations were still proceeding with the War Department for the purchase of the peninsula which it is intended to develop as a housing area principally for the middle and higher income groups.

Reconstruction of Castries. On the night of 19th/20th June, 1948, 24 acres, the most valuable portion of the town of Castries, were

destroyed by fire. The total municipal area is 102 acres. This disaster entailed the re-building of the whole of the central area of the town.

Planning proposals for the re-development of the destroyed area were prepared by Mr. John C. Rose, A.R.I.B.A., A.Dip., Executive Architect, Windward Islands, in association with Mr. Anthony C. Lewis, A.R.I.B.A., B.Arch., M.Sc., C.P.

The services of the Colonial Development Corporation were engaged as architectural and engineering consultants, and the United Kingdom firm of Messrs. Holland & Hannen and Cubitts Ltd. were engaged by the Colonial Development Corporation on behalf of the Government of St. Lucia as constructors. Mr. F. E. Degazon, Assistant Administrator of the Colony, was seconded for duty as Commissioner for Reconstruction.

Work has proceeded at a favourable rate, and the new streets and buildings are already in evidence. Nearly two-fifths of the destroyed area has already been re-built, and it is hoped that the remaining three-fifths will be completely re-built in the course of the next three years. The Government re-building programme should be concluded by June, 1952, but the completion of all private buildings may extend over a much longer period.

One of the outstanding features of reconstruction is the establishment of a Government housing scheme which will accommodate approximately 250 family units. The buildings in this scheme comprise maisonettes and blocks of flats, including four blocks of 4-storey flats.

A modern sewerage system and an augmented water supply will soon be available. Fire-fighting equipment and organization have been extended and improved.

SOCIAL WELFARE

The staff of the Social Welfare Department for 1949 and 1950 consisted of the Assistant Social Welfare Officer, the Probation Officer, the Assistant Relieving Officer and a junior clerk. The post of Probation Officer was discontinued at the end of 1949, but the duties are being carried out by the Assistant Social Welfare Officer in addition to his own.

The office was maintained partly by Colonial Development and Welfare funds and partly by local funds. The salary, travelling and subsistence allowance of the Assistant Social Welfare Officer were paid from Colonial Development and Welfare Scheme D. 1028 and the sum of \$6,539 was spent during the two years; \$43,101 was spent from local funds.

Group activity was stimulated in the rural areas. The groups range from recreational clubs to societies with economic aims, many of them having a programme which combines social and economic activities. Handicraft forms part of the activities of most of the existing groups for women and girls. The groups in the south-western areas showed great progress in handicrafts and it is expected that this will become a thriving industry in the near future. Every effort was made to teach

handicraft to the workers on the sugar estates so that they could supplement their incomes during the off periods. It is expected that more will be achieved in this line when the proposals of the Sugar Welfare Fund Committee to build community centres on sugar estates have materialised.

Six courses of training for youth leaders were held by the department during 1949 and 1950 and several lectures on civics and co-operatives were given to adult groups in the rural areas.

Public Assistance

The Poor Relief Committee which used to administer poor relief was replaced in 1949 by a Central Assistance Committee and a Local Case Committee for each district. The Local Case Committees were allocated a portion of the funds voted for public assistance by the Central Assistance Committee. These Committees examine all applications for public assistance in their districts, and, after investigations have been carried out by the investigation officer, decide what assistance should be given to the applicants.

The following shows the number of persons receiving poor relief and the amount paid out during 1949 and 1950.

<i>Year</i>	<i>No. of Persons</i>	<i>Amount</i>
1949	1,278	\$14,314
1950	1,222	\$16,778

In-door relief is provided by the Medical Department.

Juvenile Delinquency

There are no Juvenile Courts. The statistics of juveniles convicted by the Courts are given on page 43. There are still a number of children roaming about the streets who are in need of care and protection, but little can be done as there are no suitable institutions in which to place them.

Chapter 8 : Legislation

Thirty-one Ordinances were passed in 1949 and 72 Statutory Rules and Orders were made.

Perhaps the most significant legislation of the year was that which provided for the reconstruction of Castries. First, the Castries (Commissioner for Reconstruction) Ordinance (No. 1 of 1949) constituted the office of Commissioner for Reconstruction, prescribed his powers and duties and conferred on him the functions of the Central Housing and Planning Authority in respect of the area to be re-developed. These powers include the powers exercisable by virtue of the Town and Country Planning Ordinance, 1945, and the Slum Clearance and Housing Ordinance, 1945. Following this the Castries Reconstruction Loan Ordinance (No. 9 of 1949) provided for the raising of a loan to be expended partly by relending to private persons

whose buildings were destroyed by the fire and partly in the financing of sewerage and housing schemes. The Ordinance was amended by Ordinance No. 26 of 1949.

The Loan (Bonded Warehouse) Ordinance (No. 12 of 1949) was also noteworthy.

Other ordinances affecting Castries were the Castries Town Board (Amendment) Ordinance (No. 6 of 1949) which enabled the Board to impose a uniform tax on empty lots in lieu of the tax based on rental values. There was a further amendment, Ordinance No. 30 of 1949, which affected the constitution of the Board, increasing its membership from eight to nine and providing for a rotation of one-third of the members each year. The Ordinance also introduced adult suffrage in municipal elections with a literacy test, namely the ability to sign the notice of claim to be registered,

Competing for prominence with the Castries legislation is the Land and House Tax Ordinance (No. 29 of 1949) which introduced a land tax ; the imposition of this tax has exercised the Council off and on for nearly fifty years. The Ordinance does not go into refinements but establishes a principle which was firmly resisted until 1949 and was passed not without protest.

The Fishing Boat Loans Ordinance (No. 11 of 1949) enables the Governor in Council to set up machinery for assisting the fishing industry.

The Workmen's Compensation (Amendment) Ordinance (No. 7 of 1949) increases the amount of workmen's compensation payable under the principal Ordinance.

The Boy Scouts Association Ordinance (No. 21 of 1949) seeks to further and protect the activities and interests of the Boy Scouts Association in the Colony.

The Administration of Successions (Civil Code) (Amendment) Ordinance (No. 19 of 1949) seeks to provide for the vesting of the moveable and immoveable property of a deceased person in his personal representative "for the better administration of successions and for other purposes connected therewith". This Ordinance is capable of making the first major inroad into the civil law of St. Lucia which has till now strictly adhered to the French civil law.

Among the variety of amending legislation and the more numerous subsidiary legislation should be mentioned Rules and Orders giving effect to the 1948 Income Tax Ordinance and Double Taxation Relief Procedure.

During 1950, 28 Ordinances were passed and 37 Statutory Rules and Orders made.

The Currency Ordinance (No. 13 of 1950) must be singled out for special mention. The Ordinance which will come into force on proclamation is closely modelled on a currency law framed to implement an agreement to provide a uniform currency in the Eastern Group of the British Caribbean Colonies. Barbados, British Guiana, the Leeward Islands, Trinidad and Tobago and the Colonies of the Windward Islands are affected by the Agreement.

The General Loan and Stock Ordinance (No. 11 of 1950) repeals and replaces the General Loan and (Inscribed) Stock Ordinance (No. 11 of 1922). In this Ordinance the law is brought up to date as regards the terms and conditions applicable to statutory loans in the light of the provisions of the Colonial Stock Acts, 1877 to 1948, of the Imperial Parliament.

The Loan (Economic Development) Ordinance (No. 14 of 1950) repeals the Loan (Bonded Warehouse) Ordinance of 1949 and consolidates the law dealing with the loan programme of the Colony.

P.A.Y.E. machinery was introduced by the Income Tax (Employments) Ordinance (No. 9 of 1950). This is modelled on the English Act of 1944.

The Prison (Extra-Mural Sentences) Ordinance (No. 17 of 1950) will enable penal reform on an experimental scale. Short sentences up to six months, commitments for non-payment of fines, and sentences on women for minor offences may be served on public works out of prison.

The Slum Clearance and Housing (Amendment) Ordinance (No. 2 of 1950) extends the definition of "working class" to persons earning £3 per week and so enables subsidised housing to benefit a larger number of persons.

The Coconut Industry Fund Ordinance (No. 20 of 1950) gives effect to proposals for decreasing the export duty on coconut products, and diverting at the same time a portion of the gain to the industry to the establishment of stabilisation funds.

In addition there were minor amendments of existing legislation of which the only one which need be noted was the Banana (Amendment) Ordinance (No. 19 of 1950) to strengthen the constitution of the Banana Association in preparation for a banana export drive. In 1950 the Land and House Tax Ordinance was proclaimed and the Land and House Tax Regulations appeared among the subsidiary legislation for the year.

Chapter 9 : Justice, Police and Prisons

JUSTICE

It is convenient to begin a review of the law of St. Lucia from the capitulation of the island to General Grinfield on 22nd June, 1803, and the assurance to the inhabitants by Proclamation that they should continue in the enjoyment of their rights in accordance with the laws which existed immediately prior to the cession. The proclamation of 1803 continued, therefore, as the law of the Colony, at least in civil matters, the law and ordinances of the French monarchy.

In 1876 owing to uncertainty concerning the law in civil matters, the Civil Code Ordinance was passed and by 1879 the Civil Code and Code of Civil Procedure were produced, based on the ancient law of the

island with such amendments as the circumstances of the time required.

Broadly speaking, the law relating to commercial matters is based on principles of English law. The commercial law was compiled in 1916 into the Commercial Code, which follows faithfully the lines of existing English statutes, and in that year also statutes of St. Lucia were revised and collected into two volumes called the Revised Ordinances of St. Lucia, 1916. Subordinate legislation was collected in a separate volume called Revised Rules and Orders, 1916. It was not till 1920 that the Criminal Code (Law and Procedure) made its appearance.

Since 1916 new laws, whether by way of amendment to the codes or otherwise, have been published in annual volumes of the Ordinances and Statutory Rules and Orders of St. Lucia.

The laws are at present being revised and consolidated.

For the administration of justice the island has been divided into three Judicial Districts. These District Courts of Judicature are presided over by Magistrates who exercise a summary jurisdiction in civil and criminal matters.

The present Superior Court was constituted by the Leeward Islands and Windward Islands (Courts) Order in Council, 1939, what was formerly the Royal Court becoming a circuit of the Supreme Court of the Windward Islands and Leeward Islands. The Court has unlimited original jurisdiction in all civil or criminal matters, and Admiralty jurisdiction within the meaning and intent of the Colonial Courts of Admiralty Act, 1890, and an appellate jurisdiction over the District Courts. In civil matters which are exclusively assigned to the District Courts, the Supreme Court has no original jurisdiction.

The Windward Islands and Leeward Islands Court of Appeal hears appeals from the Supreme Court in civil and criminal matters in accordance with the rules contained in Statutory Rules and Orders 67 of 1940 as amended. Normally, at least three judges constitute the Court of Appeal, but the rules prescribe classes of appeals to be determined by two judges. The classes so far prescribed are contained in the (Amendment) Rules of 1941, S.R. & O. No. 36, of 1941.

The West Indian Court of Appeal is an alternative court of appeal in certain matters.

The following numbers of cases and persons were dealt with in the District Courts.

	1st District Court		2nd District Court		3rd District Court	
	1949	1950	1949	1950	1949	1950
No. of Summary Cases	1,557	1,647	811	786	474	390
No. of persons involved	1,901	1,960	885	883	614	456
Convictions	1,344	1,292	636	652	407	280
Acquittals and withdrawals	540	622	242	226	201	169
No. committed for trial	17	46	7	5	6	7
No. of civil cases	328	323	40	51	38	26

In the Supreme Court there were in 1949, 28 civil cases, 33 criminal cases and 8 appeals. There was one appeal before the West Indian Court of Appeal. In 1950 there were 30 civil cases, 46 criminal cases

and 14 appeals. There were no appeals before the West Indian Court of Appeal.

POLICE

The approved establishment of the Force effective from 1st January, 1949, was one Superintendent of Police, one Deputy Superintendent, one Assistant Superintendent, one inspector, one sub-inspector, one bandmaster, two station sergeants and 171 other ranks. The approved establishment was increased to 209 all ranks with effect from 1st January, 1950, and at 31st December, 1950, the strength of the Force was one Superintendent, one Deputy Superintendent, one Assistant Superintendent, one inspector, one sub-inspector, one bandmaster, three station sergeants, 188 other ranks and 12 band cadets. Of these 99 had under three years service, 56 under six years, 23 under ten years and the rest over ten years service.

The Force was allocated to Castries (Headquarters) and Castries Central Police Station with outstations at Vieux Fort, Soufrière, Dennery, Choiseul, Laborie, Anse la Raye, Canaries, Micoud, Gros Islet, La Caye and Chaussee.

In addition to normal police duties the Force was responsible for fire brigade, immigration, traffic and licensing, weights and measures and film censorship.

During the two years under review 87 recruits were trained and taken on the strength of the Force.

Transport was further improved by the acquisition of one Austin pick-up and two motor-cycles.

A new police station was built at Dennery in 1949 and Gros Islet police station underwent considerable repairs. A new station at Micoud is on the programme for 1951.

The demolition and re-building of part of the existing barracks at headquarters will begin early in 1951 and also the construction of a new port police and fire station on the Northern Wharf.

The approved establishment of the Fire Brigade, which is part of the Police, was one fire staff sergeant, one fire engineer, two sergeants, three corporals, three lance-corporals and 21 constables. This staff is on full time Brigade duties. The Brigade operates from Castries with a small detachment stationed at Beane Field to cover Vieux Fort town and Base.

Fire extinguishers, cocks, etc. were installed by the Fire Brigade in Government offices and institutions in order to reduce fire risks.

The Police Band consisting of a sub-inspector (bandmaster), two lance-corporals, one constable and 12 band cadets, have performed at all official functions during the period under review.

There were 1,730 true cases of crime in 1950 and 1,573 in 1949. Praedial larceny showed a marked decrease in 1950, figures being 75 cases for 1950 as against 167 in 1949.

There were two cases of murder in 1950, one of these being committed by a juvenile ; both charges were reduced to manslaughter.

The greatest number of unsolved cases were those of cattle stealing occurring mainly in the country areas. The Police experienced difficulty in obtaining information.

One hundred and fifteen cases of house, shop and kitchen breaking were reported in both years.

The number of persons charged in connection with all true cases in 1950 was 1,677—1,256 males and 421 females, of whom 801 males and 221 females were arrested, and 455 males and 200 females were summoned. Figures for 1949 were 1,179 males and 381 females, of whom 675 males and 205 females were arrested and 503 males and 177 females were summoned.

	1950		1949	
	Males	Females	Males	Females
Convicted	898	326	825	292
Acquitted	158	32	111	22
Withdrawn by Complainant	10	6	120	29
Withdrawn by Police	116	33		
Pending Trial	74	24	123	38
Total	1,256	421	1,179	381

Included in the persons convicted are juveniles and young persons in the following age groups :

Age :	6-8	8-10	10-12	12-14	14-16	16-18	18-21	Total
1949	1	7	8	30	43	81	147	317
1950	Nil	7	12	32	40	56	160	307

Although there was a slight decrease in the number of juvenile offenders convicted in 1950, some of the most serious cases were committed by juveniles—murder, burglary and housebreaking.

Traffic. Thirty-four traffic accidents occurred in 1949 compared with 52 in 1950, an increase of 14 and 32 over 1948.

TRAFFIC CASES

	Cases Reported and prosecuted*	Convictions	Cases withdrawn by the Police	Acquittals	Pending
1949	132	65	51	16	—
1950	315†	244	41	12	18

* These figures include 34 traffic accidents in 1949 and 52 in 1950.

† 59 official warnings were issued in 1950 in place of prosecutions.

The marked increase in 1950 cases over 1949 is partly due to the considerable increase in the number of motor vehicles. The number of vehicles registered in the Colony at 31st December, 1949, and 1950 was 387 and 529 respectively.

PRISONS

The staff consists of a Superintendent, one chief officer, one principal officer, 21 male officers for the male prison and a matron and assistant matron in charge of the female prison.

A new female prison has been built at La Toc approximately one and a half miles from the male prison ; the premises that were formerly occupied by the female prisoners are now used for male first offenders; the move has materially relieved congestion.

The 28 long-term male prisoners who were transferred to Barbados in 1948 were returned to St. Lucia Prison in 1949.

Prisoners were committed to prison for the following terms :

	1949	1950
18 months and over	14	28
12—18 months	16	5
6—12 months	47	54
3— 6 months	50	46
1— 3 months	58	59
Under 1 month	48	52

The total daily average was 106 in 1949 and 111.2 in 1950. At 31st December, 1949, there were 117 men and seven women prisoners compared with 101 men and eight women on the same day in 1950.

Vocational training under trade officers continued. The value of the manufacturing work done in 1950 was \$38,713, and the expenditure on materials \$30,204 ; the profit of \$8,509 was carried to the Colony's General Revenue. Crops were reaped from the prison farm and were used in prison kitchens, which caused a saving of approximately \$400.

No executions took place. There were no escapes and there was a marked decline in breaches of prison discipline.

The Prison Medical Officer paid daily visits to the prisons and found that the prisoners' health was good ; no illness due to faulty diet was reported and the majority of prisoners put on weight.

Chapter 10 : Public Utilities and Public Works

CASTRIES WATER SUPPLY

The Castries Town Board supplies the town of Castries and a few areas outside the municipal limits with pipe-borne water.

The supply of a quarter million gallons per day comes from a catchment area of about 2,000 acres, part of which flows by gravity through steel and asbestos cement pipes and part of which is pumped by oil-engine-driven centrifugal pumps.

The treatment given is plain sedimentation in a 450,000-gallon reservoir. This also provides storage, slow sand filtration, and sterilisation by the chloramine process. The water then passes to a service reservoir of 300,000-gallon capacity, whence it flows through mains to the town.

In the distribution area the population is served by public street stand pipes and private water services ; a general water rate is imposed on all premises, and a water supply rate is imposed on those premises having private supplies. A few industrial supplies are metered, and water is also supplied to shipping by meter. Street hydrants provide water for fire-fighting.

A scheme for the extension of the supply is in progress. The general plan is to develop both the gravity and the pumped supplies to a capacity of approximately 800,000 gallons per day, substituting electricity for diesel power, to erect a purification plant of a modern type to accommodate coagulating tanks, gravity filters, chloramine and lime-dosing plant, and to distribute to a larger area than at present in two zones, a low-level to include most of the present municipal area, and a high-level to include the higher areas outside the present municipal limits.

ELECTRICITY

The Castries station which was built in 1933 is being extended and the work should be completed early in 1951. Two further generating sets will be installed, one of 144 k.w. (which has been received and is awaiting the completion of the station extension), and another of 155 k.w. which is expected in mid-1951.

The machinery in operation at present consists of two sets of 103.5 k.w. and one of 72 k.w.

The two most distant load centres, the Morne Fortune area and Vigie, have been considerably improved by the introduction of high tension transmission. Very little extension to the system was necessary as the old low tension networks were used for this purpose.

The total number of consumers increased from 1948 to 1950 as follows :

Lighting consumers	from	649	to	832
Domestic	"	"	68	to 148
Power	"	"	16	to 25

The current sold to the town for street lighting is estimated at 38,000 units for 1950. The total current sold is estimated at 750,000 units for 1950.

Apart from the village of Anse la Raye, for which an electricity supply system is being installed, the towns of Soufrière and Vieux Fort are the only other districts of the island provided with electricity for general consumption. The Soufrière undertaking is in the hands of the Soufrière Electricity Supply Co., Ltd., and franchise is secured for the company by the Electricity Supply of Soufrière Ordinance, 1939. The question of establishing a hydro-electric scheme for Soufrière is receiving consideration. The Anse la Raye system which began operation in December, 1946, is now under the control of a statutory local authority constituted under the provisions of the Local Authorities Ordinance, 1946.

ST. LUCIA
PUBLIC WORKS

During 1949 and 1950 the following major works undertaken by the Public Works Department either from local or Colonial Development and Welfare funds were completed :

A new police station at Dennery and a new house for the doctor in this district.

Five new houses at Vigie for senior Government officials, together with an access road of 1,620 feet.

Four Health Centres at Richfond, Mon Repos, Anse la Raye and La Fargue.

Three new schools at Augier, Vide Bouteille and Monchy.

A new female prison

Repairs to Anse la Raye bridge

Repairs to Zelon des Colon Road

One mile of new road and a reinforced concrete bridge at Vide Bouteille for the Central Housing Authority.

The Dennery-Vieux Fort Road was also completed by the contractors in 1949.

During the years under review maintenance of roads and bridges was carried out within the limits imposed by financial considerations.

Chapter 11 : Communications

SHIPPING

During 1949 and 1950 the net tonnage of all shipping making use of the Port of Castries was 465,808 and 501,114 tons respectively. The 1949 figure represents a decrease of 30,130 tons and the 1950 figure an increase of 5,176 tons over the 1948 figure. The total number of ships calling at Castries was 690 in 1949 and 717 in 1950, of these 163 and 171 respectively were steamers with a total tonnage of 366,299 and 378,468 ; sailing vessels in 1949 numbered 206 and in 1950, 190.

AIR

The Colony is served by two regular air services, British West Indian Airways and Pan American Airways. B.W.I.A. maintains a service during four days of the week, and makes use of the Vigie Airport which is only 1½ miles from Castries. Periodic calls by K.L.M. airline were made. P.A.A. calls at Beane Field, at the south of the island which forms a link in the Pan American Airway Caribbean Service.

RAILWAYS

There are no railways or tramways in the Colony.

COASTAL SERVICES

The Government subsidises the carriage of passengers and mail

coastwise from Castries to Soufrière and further south to Vieux Fort by launch.

ROADS

Road transportation which forms the main communication between the east-coast villages and the southern part of the island increased greatly and nearly all out-districts are now connected by a daily service with Castries and intermediate towns and villages. The mail service by road for the easterly and southern district has been continued.

POSTS

Throughout the years 1949 and 1950 the British West Indian Airways continued their service which connects the British West Indian Islands from Jamaica to Trinidad with the exception of Dominica and St. Vincent. On 17th May, 1950, the British West Indian Airways extended the service to Martinique and Guadeloupe. In November, 1950, arrangements were made to forward air mails to Dominica and St. Vincent via Barbados twice weekly. Mails to other parts of the world are forwarded to Trinidad for onward transmission.

During 1949 and 1950 Pan American Airways continued to call at St. Lucia (Beane Field, Vieux Fort) on the run between Trinidad and Puerto Rico.

Surface mails from the United Kingdom, Europe, Canada and the United States of America were received by steamers of the Harrison Line, Canadian National Steamships, and the Alcoa Steamship Company. Mails were despatched to the destinations mentioned above, by these steamers and also via Barbados by M.V. *Rady Joy* and the many schooners that ply between these islands.

Steamers of the French Line plying between Martinique and St. Lucia and between Martinique and French Guiana via the southern islands continued the service during 1949 and 1950.

Inland communication between different parts of the island is by means of road or coastal launch services. Government pays a subsidy for the carriage of mails, passengers and cargo on both routes. The coastwise service from Soufrière to Castries and return via Anse la Raye and Canaries was daily except Wednesdays, Sundays and bank holidays. The coastwise service to Choiseul, Laborie and Vieux Fort was three times a week. The overland service from Vieux Fort to Castries and return via Micoud, Patience and Dennery was four times a week. The overland route is approximately 40 miles and runs from Castries in a southerly direction across the island from west to east to Dennery turning south to Vieux Fort along the coast.

Their Majesties' Silver Wedding Stamps of 1d. and £1 which were placed on sale on 26th November, 1948, were withdrawn from sale on 26th February, 1949, and the corresponding denominations in the existing series were replaced. A new definitive issue, with values expressed in West Indian dollars and cents, replaced the issue in sterling currency on 1st October, 1949.

On 10th October, 1949, a special issue of five cents, six cents, 12 cents and 24 cents denominations to commemorate the 75th Anniversary of the Universal Postal Union was placed on sale for a period of three months.

On 1st June, 1950, two new sub-post offices were established at Mabouya in the Quarter of Dennery and Saltibus in the Quarter of Laborie with restricted postal facilities.

The mercantile community is making greater use of the parcel post section. Eight thousand seven hundred and fifty parcels were received in 1950, compared with 7,591 in 1949 and 6,813 in 1948.

TELEGRAPH AND RADIO

The telegraph service was carried out by Cable and Wireless (West Indies) Ltd. The wireless telephone service was available between Castries and the United Kingdom, Canada and the British West Indian islands, and the United States of America from December, 1947.

TELEPHONE

The telephone system, owned and maintained by Government, operates 166½ miles of trunk lines ; 200 telephones were in service during 1949 and 225 during 1950.

PART III

Chapter 1 : Geography and Climate

GEOGRAPHY

ST. LUCIA is one of the curved chain of volcanic islands which comprise the Lesser Antilles. It is situated between the longitude limits $60^{\circ} 53'$ West and $61^{\circ} 05'$ West and the latitude limits $13^{\circ} 43'$ North and $14^{\circ} 07'$ North. It lies approximately halfway between St. Vincent to the south and the French island of Martinique to the north. Its greatest length north to south is 27 miles, its greatest breadth 14 miles. The area, 233 square miles, is a little more than that of the Isle of Man.

The island is mountainous, the highest peak being Mt. Gimie (3,145 feet). The most spectacular mountains are the Gros Piton (2,619 feet) and the Petit Piton (2,461 feet), which are old volcanic forest clad cones rising sheer out of the sea near the town of Soufrière on the leeward coast. A few miles away in an ancient crater are dark-coloured, hot, bubbling sulphurous springs, an indication of the decadent volcanic activity of this district. The mountains are intersected by numerous short rivers. In places, these rivers debouch into broad fertile and well cultivated valleys.

According to the census taken in 1946 the population of the Island was 70,113. Of this number, about 20,000 live in towns and larger villages. The rest may be described as being a scattered rural population. The mountainous build and forested nature of the island have virtually restricted settlement to the coastal areas. The capital, Castries (population 7,056), is situated on a fine sheltered deep-water harbour (27 feet deep along quay-side at low water). Other settlements—Soufrière (3,219), Vieux Fort (2,747), Anse la Raye (1,524), Dennery (1,391), Micoud (1,141) as well as the smaller villages, Canaries, Laborie, Gros Islet, Choiseul—are all on the coast. The place names are largely of French origin. A corrupt French patois is still spoken especially amongst the rural population.

Motorable roads connect Castries with all the main centres of population except one which is accessible only by sea. There is regular coastal communication on the leeward side of the island; sloops and schooners also ply an inter-island trade from Castries. Modern conditions—especially the increasing use of oil-burning vessels—have led to the decline of the formerly important coaling industry in Castries. The harbour is still an important port of call for ocean-going liners and naval craft.

CLIMATE

The island lies in latitudes where the N.E. trade winds are almost a constant influence. The rainfall varies considerably, being greatest

in the interior mountain region. The following are average yearly rainfall figures in inches from six selected stations :

<i>Station and Locality</i>		<i>Length in Years of Period of Observation</i>	<i>Average Rainfall in inches</i>
Corinth	(North)	22	88.46
Castries	(W. Coast)	22	91.56
Vanard	(W. Interior)	18	107.03
Quillesse	(Central Interior)	9	158.01
Soufrière	(W. Coast)	22	96.35
Vieux Fort	(S. Coast)	19	70.04

The first four months of the year tend to be the driest. During the rest of the year there is much variation with an insufficiency of reliable data to draw sound conclusions. Reliable temperature figures are not available. Generally speaking it can be said that the temperature rarely exceeds 90°F. and seldom falls below 70°F. except in the higher altitudes. The daily range is small. At Morne Fortune (Castries, 845 feet) wind percentage figures show that 90 per cent of the winds come from the east, east-north-east, and north-east, a constancy of direction which is reflected in the fact that Castries airport has a one-directional air strip.

Chapter 2 : History

It has not been easy to find information regarding the early history of St. Lucia, especially the story of the Caribs, the aborigines who inhabited the island. In fact, so scant is the information, that the date of discovery is uncertain, for according to the known evidence of Columbus's voyages, he appears to have missed the island. Even the early days of colonisation leave blanks that it is impossible to fill. Archaeological finds in various parts of the island, though of no major significance, may later contribute to the knowledge that is still to be learnt of the warlike race that resisted the early attempts of European settlement.

As early as 1605, 67 Englishmen en route to Guiana, touched at St. Lucia and made an unsuccessful attempt to settle. The first recorded settlement was in 1638, when a few hundred men, under one Captain Judlee, with fortune seekers from Bermuda and St. Kitts, met with great opposition from the Caribs and were driven out in 1641. It is known that French settlers also staked claims in various parts of the island, but the real conflict did not begin until the French and the English laid inconclusive claims to the island, and from 1650 it became a bone of contention and war. The French claim was based upon the reputed grant of the island by Cardinal Richelieu, and the English contended that the island was granted to them by Charles I, who had given over sovereign rights to the Earl of Carlisle. At the time, the French had formed a French West Indian Company, headed by De L'Olive and Du Plessis.

In 1650 it would appear that Royal grants had fallen into disfavour. The French under the Governor of Martinique, Du Parquet, took the opportunity to befriend the still hostile Caribs, and having allayed their suspicions, started a massacre of this fast-disappearing race. In 1660 a peace treaty was made between the Caribs and the French. But quiet was not to last long, for in 1663, Francis, Lord Willoughby, who had a lease of the whole neighbouring island of Barbados contested the French claims to sovereignty. Lord Willoughby placed the plans for attacking St. Lucia in the hands of the adventurer Thomas Warner, who with one thousand men set sail from Barbados, and descended upon the island and overpowered the French. This was the first full-dress rehearsal to the internecine wars that rocked the island for over one hundred and fifty years. The settlers and soldiers under Thomas Warner gave in to disease and attacks by the Caribs. In 1667 the French again took the island, which was formally restored to them at the Peace Treaty of Breda.

In a brief exposition such as this it is not possible to give the full implications of this contest between the English and the French. The island had undoubted strategic advantages, with good harbours and sheltered waters, where ships could refit, repair and re-victual. The powers recognised the extraordinary advantages of some of the harbours and bays on the western coast, so much so that the island adopted as its motto, "*Statio haud malefida carinis*". In 1667 the island was made a dependency of the French island of Martinique. Between 1651 and 1793, there was a succession of thirty-six French Governors during those periods when it was held by the French.

It is believed that after the island was annexed to Martinique no settlers remained in St. Lucia. In 1718, the Regent d'Orleans made a grant of the Island to the Marshal D'Estrees who attempted to settle it once again. This further attempt at colonisation created resentment from the English, and in 1722 George I of England granted the island to the Duke of Montague. The Duke of Montague attempted to consolidate this grant by sending a strong party of colonists and soldiers under Captain Uring, to fight if possible the French at their base in Martinique. In 1723 the island was declared neutral, pending the decision of the interested parties. The decision was an agreeable one, for both sides agreed to withdraw their claims and settlers, and the island was used for the restricted purposes of refitting and watering ships. Twenty years later, in 1743, the Marquis de Caylus, Governor General of Martinique, ordered his troops to capture St. Lucia, for once again England and France were at war. In 1748 the Treaty of Aix la Chapelle declared the island to be neutral.

The international situation in Europe flared into the Seven Years' War in 1756. In 1762, the island was captured by the naval forces of Admiral Rodney, yet this surrender was purposeless, for when the Treaty of Paris was signed in 1763, the island was assigned to France. At this period some of England's leading soldiers and sailors took part in these campaigns, and names like Stewart, Abercrombie and Moore

are to be remembered. After 1763, the French started to lay fortifications, and establish a permanent government. The island, in spite of these wranglings, had established by this time its foremost crop, sugar, for in 1765 the first sugar factory was established at Vieux Fort and negro slaves to work on the plantations were introduced. In 1772, the population was 2,018 whites, 633 coloured, and 12,795 Negroes.

During the administration of the French, the island made some headway under Chevalier de Micoud. The town of Castries, its present capital, was transferred from Le Petit Carenage in the Castries harbour on the Vigie Peninsula to its present site. The fortifications were further strengthened by the building of the massive forts on Morne Fortune, a site which was to become one of the bloodiest battle-grounds of the Caribbean. In 1778, Rodney captured the island once again, and insisted that the island should be held at all costs, for he had now been fully convinced of its strategic potentialities. Exactly what Rodney thought of the island as a naval outpost of the Empire is contained in a letter addressed to the Earl of Sandwich, and is reproduced in Breen's *History of St. Lucia*, a work published in 1844. Four years later, in 1782, Rodney repulsed a vigorous attempt by the French to retake the island. It was at this time that Britain launched one of the greatest blows at French naval power, with the defeat of the French fleet under de Grasse at the battle of the Saints. The irony of the Treaty of Versailles the following year was that St. Lucia was restored to France.

In 1794, a France torn with revolution at home, and in its dependencies, received another blow when Admiral Jervis took the island. The following year, the island changed hands, when Victor Hughes, a French Republican and friend of Robespierre, captured the island in the name of France. In 1796, Sir Ralph Abercrombie and Sir John Moore retook the island for England, only for it to be restored to France by the Treaty of Amiens in 1802. Morne Fortune was turned into the decisive battle ground in 1803, for the Morne was carried by storm by well-known British Regiments. Finally this island was ceded to Britain in 1814 at the Treaty of Paris.

St. Lucia, like the rest of the archipelago, was an important link in the chain of rivalry for trade. The island was gradually being developed with plantations expanding their cultivation of sugar, cotton, coffee and spices, but it did not seem to "settle down", for after it had gained respite from war, came the rising tide of revolt, and the Emancipation Act of 1833, when the slaves were set free after their period of apprenticeship.

Breen said in his *History of St. Lucia*, "Although St. Lucia's progress has been retarded by a thousand vicissitudes—fires and hurricanes, and internecine divisions and maroon wars, and foreign invasion and political broils, and financial difficulties and even bankruptcy; yet there is no colony that has passed through the ordeal of emancipation with less detriment to the interests of public order"

In the post-abolition days, and with the end of the industrial revolution of Europe, the commerce of the island grew. With the advent of

steamships the Colony became an important coaling centre, and in 1913 ranked as the thirteenth largest coaling station in the British commonwealth.

In 1838, St. Lucia was included with Barbados, Granada and St. Vincent in one general Government, with headquarters at Barbados, under the Governor-General, with a Lieutenant-Governor residing in each of the other islands. In 1885, a new Windward Island Government was established, comprising St. Lucia, St. Vincent, Grenada and Tobago, with headquarters in Grenada. In 1851, the Castries Municipal Corporation was formed, to administer the affairs of the small capital town, and in 1890 the Castries Town Board replaced that body. The Castries Town Board is the oldest wholly elected municipal authority in the British West Indies.

During World War I, St. Lucia was one of the largest Admiralty coaling stations. With the change-over to oil-burning vessels, the coaling trade has declined. An important event in St. Lucia's history was the establishment of two United States Bases, under the 1940 Anglo-American Agreement.

The Castries Fire of 19-20th June, 1948, is a dark page in St. Lucia's history, and has already been described in the 1948 Report.

During 1950 the United States Base at Beane Field was "de-activated" and Government assumed control by agreement.

Chapter 3 : Administration

The Government of St. Lucia is administered by an Administrator who is responsible to the Governor of the Windward Islands, aided by an Executive Council. The constitution of the Executive Council is regulated by Royal Instructions of 1938, 1939 and 1945. When present in the Colony the Governor presides and in his absence the Administrator. The Executive Council consists of the Administrator, the Assistant Administrator, the Crown Attorney and the Treasurer as *ex-officio* members and such other persons as His Majesty or the Governor with the approval of the Secretary of State may appoint.

The law-making body is the Legislative Council reconstituted in 1936 by Order in Council and consisting of the Governor, three *ex-officio* members (the Administrator, Crown Attorney and Treasurer), three nominated members and five elected members, one each for three electoral districts and two for the district which includes the capital. The presiding member has a casting vote only.

The franchise extends to British subjects of 21 years of age who have resided in the Island for 12 months at least previous to registration and have the following income or property qualification : income of \$144 per annum ; real property worth \$480 or rent of \$57-20 per annum ; or the payment of \$3-60 in direct taxes. Persons desiring to register,

unless incapacitated by blindness or some other physical cause, are required to sign their names and date their signature in their own hand.

Under the Legislative Council (Elected Members) Ordinance, 1939 as amended in 1945, the register of voters is made triennially, the most recent one having been completed in October, 1950, showing a total number of 2,553 voters for the four electoral districts.

The powers of the Governor are contained in Letters Patent dated 9th April, 1924, and Royal Instruction of the same date. The Governor has reserve powers under an Order in Council, dated 27th October, 1936, for ensuring the passage of legislation which he considers expedient in the interests of public faith or of good government. Proceedings in council are regulated by Standing Rules and Orders dated 5th October, 1926.

In practice a Finance Committee, consisting of members of Legislative Council, which can be convened informally, functions as a consultative body and enables legislators to be kept in continuous touch with affairs.

Directly responsible to the Administrator are the Heads of Department. The following are the principal departments : Administration Department, Agricultural Department, Audit Department, Education Department, Lands and Surveys Department, Legal Department, Medical Department, Police Department, Port and Marine Department, Post Office Department, Public Works Department and Treasury and Customs Department.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

The Castries Town Board is a wholly elected body which prides itself on a history dating from 1890. The Board is constituted under the Castries Town Board Ordinance, No. 129, 1916 Revision, and within the limits of the Town of Castries has complete authority for raising and spending funds. In addition to the usual functions performed by a municipality, the Board is responsible for the supply of electricity to Castries and surroundings. Elections are held yearly as from 1950, and one-third of the members of the Board retire every year in rotation, but are eligible for re-election. The members elect their chairman. In 1950 the number of the members of the Board were increased to nine.

A major development in administration took place in 1948, when towns and villages started on the road to managing their own affairs under powers given by the Local Authorities Ordinance of 1946, proclaimed law in 1947.

Previously small towns and villages were represented by improvement committees, appointed by Government to advise village wardens on matters affecting their community. These committees had no statutory powers. The change over to a democratic system of local government was received with great enthusiasm, and at the 1947 Conference delegates made recommendations that the future local

authorities should determine and control boundaries, roads, bridges and buildings, recreation grounds, sanitation, poor relief and local welfare, water services, electricity, fire fighting, markets and abattoirs, pounds and cemeteries, rates and taxes.

These towns and villages continued to manage their own affairs in 1949 and 1950, with an annual grant in aid by Central Government, together with their collections of rates and taxes.

Elections were held in 1949 and 1950 and few changes took place among retiring members who were eligible for re-election. The most important event was a Conference of Delegates of Local Authorities which was held in Castries. The function of the Conference was to examine aspects of financial assistance received from Central Government funds, new taxes that could be raised, and subsidiary legislation to widen the powers of the various councils. This conference was followed by an investigation into the financial relationship between the Central Government and local authorities. The findings of the Financial and Economic Adviser to the Government of the Windward Islands now serve as a valuable guide to the various authorities.

The functions of a District Officer are in the main supervisory. The Ordinance does not vest him with any official status within the local authorities, his position being that of the representative of the Administrator resident in the district. Administratively it has been arranged that matters affecting the districts under his supervision should be transmitted through the District Office to the Central Administration.

One function of the District Officer in 1949 and 1950 was to administer the United States Air Force Base, Beane Field, which provides electricity and water to adjoining inhabited areas, and is still used as an airport.

In the Ordinance the functions of the local authorities are fully defined. The authorities are enabled to accumulate funds on which they may draw in accordance with estimates approved by the Central Administration. The accounts are subject to audit by the Audit Department and inspection by members of the Legislative Council.

An attempt has been made to make the Ordinance sufficiently elastic to enable authorities, however called, to develop into fully elected bodies as they gain stability from experience. Provision is made for a direct subvention from central funds and for dissolution by the Governor-in-Council in the event of persistent mismanagement. Where a local authority is dissolved the Governor may by nomination complete the constitution of the Council or, in certain circumstances, appoint a person to act in the place of the local authority.

Chapter 4 : Weights and Measures

The standard measures recognised by the laws of St. Lucia are the Imperial yard, the Imperial pound, and the Imperial gallon.

Chapter 5 : Newspapers and Periodicals

Two newspapers are published in Castries.

The Voice of St. Lucia, established 1885, is published usually five times a week.

The West Indian Crusader, founded in 1934, is a bi-weekly publication.

Chapter 6 : Reading List

St. Lucia, by H. H. BREEN. Longmans, Brown, Green & Longmans, 1844.

St. Lucia Handbook, by E. C. GARRAWAY (1902). Revision by W. W. Palmer. Castries, 1904.

The following books have sections on St. Lucia :

History of the British Colonies in the West Indies, by BRYAN EDWARDS 3 vols. (1793).

The English in the West Indies, by J. A. FROUDE. Longmans, 1888.

A Historical Geography of the British Colonies. Vol. II : The West Indies, by C. P. LUCAS, C.B. 2nd ed. Frowde, 1905.

The Pocket Guide to the West Indies, by SIR ALGERNON ASPINALL. Macmillan,

Geography of the West Indies and Adjacent Islands, by J. O. CUTTERIDGE. 2nd ed. Nelson, 1948.

West Indian Histories, Book III : Story of the West Indian Colonies, by EDWARD W. DANIEL. Nelson, 1942.

The Year Book of the British West Indies. Skinner.

OFFICIAL PUBLICATIONS

Obtainable from St. Lucia or through Crown Agents for the Colonies.

An Investigation of Credit Facilities for Small Cultivators in the Windward Islands, by E. L. JACK. Obtainable free from the Government of St. Lucia.

Report on the Causes and Circumstances of the Fire in Castries, St. Lucia, on the 19th and 20th June, 1948, by Mr. Justice A. V. CRANE.

Report of the Enquiry held into the St. Lucia Police Force, July, 1948, by Brigadier A. S. MAVROGORDATO.

The Revised Sketch Development Plan—1946–1956.

Financial Survey, 1950, by A. M. MACLEOD SMITH, Financial and Economic Adviser, Windward Islands.

Memoir of the Constitutional Development of St. Lucia, by K. H. C. ALLEYNE, Crown Attorney.

Obtainable from H.M. Stationery Office

Closer Association of the British West Indian Colonies. Cmd. 7120, 1947. 9d. (10d.)

Conference on the Closer Association of the British West Indian Colonies, Montego Bay, Jamaica, 1947. Part I: Report. Cmd. 7291, 1948. 9d. (11d.) *Part II: Proceedings.* Colonial No. 218, 1948. 3s. (3s. 3d.)

British Caribbean Area. Unification of Public Services, 1948-49. Colonial No. 254, 1950. 2s. (2s. 2d.)

Report of the British Caribbean Standing Closer Association Committee, 1948-49. Colonial No. 255, 1950. 3s. (3s. 3d.)

Report of the Commission on the Establishment of a Customs Union in the British Caribbean Area, 1948-50. Colonial No. 268, 1951. 7s. 6d. (7s. 10d.)

Development and Welfare in the West Indies, 1945-46. Colonial No. 212, 1947. 3s. (3s. 2d.); 1947-49. Colonial No. 264, 1950. 4s. 6d. (4s. 9d.); 1950 Colonial No. 269, 1951. 4s. 6d. (4s. 9d.)

West India Royal Commission Report on Agriculture, Fisheries, Forestry and Veterinary Matters, by F. L. ENGLEADOW. Cmd. 6608, 1945. 3s. 6d. (3s. 10d.)

Nutrition in the West Indies. Report by B. S. PLATT. Colonial No. 195, 1946. 9d. (11d.)

Report of the West Indies Committee of the Commission on Higher Education in the Colonies. Cmd. 6654, 1945. 1s. 3d. (1s. 5d.)

Prices in brackets include postage.

APPENDIX I

SCHEDULE OF WAGE RATES AWARDED BY THE ARBITRATION TRIBUNAL (Cents per hour)

	<i>Apprentices</i>		<i>Semiskilled</i>		<i>Tradesmen</i>		<i>Foremen</i>	
	<i>Min.</i>	<i>Max.</i>	<i>Min.</i>	<i>Max.</i>	<i>Min.</i>	<i>Max.</i>	<i>Min.</i>	<i>Max.</i>
Electricians Welders Turners Mechanical Equip. Operators	10½	13½	16½	21½	22½	34½	35½	51½
Joiners Mechanics	10½	13½	16½	18½	19½	29½	30½	43½
Masons Carpenters Plumbers Painters Drillers Smiths	10½	13½	16½	18½	18½	26½	27½	39½
Chauffeur	—	—	—	—	19½	28½	—	—
Labourers : Male Female	<i>Normal Rate</i>		<i>Semiskilled</i>		<i>Gangers</i>			
	<i>Min.</i>	<i>Max.</i>	<i>Min.</i>	<i>Max.</i>	<i>Min.</i>	<i>Max.</i>		
Male	13	15	16½	18½	19½	31½		
Female	11	13	—	—	—	—		
Timekeepers Storekeepers Checkers	21½	30½	—	—	—	—		
Watchmen	13½	—	—	—	—	—		

APPENDIX II

Certain other Wage Rates

Commerce

Shop Assistants (Minimum Monthly Wage)		1949	1950*
Male	.	\$16.42—\$18.60	\$18.00—\$20.40
Female	.	\$13.68—\$15.32	\$15.00—\$16.80

* The weekly hours of work were
41-56.

Domestic Servants

Fed and/or lodged \$2.40 to \$ 8.40 per month (12 hrs. per day average)
Not fed or lodged \$4.80 to \$13.20 " " " " " "

Waterfront Workers (by agreement)

	1949 & 1950	Overtime
Dockmen	36 cents per hour	54 cents per hour
Holdmen	40 cents " "	60 cents " "
Winchmen, guywaymen and gangwaymen	52 cents " "	78 cents " "
Tally Clerks	80 cents " "	\$1.20 " "

Public Service

(Salary per year)

	1949		1950
<i>Clerical Officers</i>			
Special Grade Clerk	\$1,680 × 96—\$2,016	Principal	\$1,680 × 96—\$2,016
First Class Clerk	\$1,200 × 72—\$1,560	Senior	\$1,200 × 72—\$1,560
Second Class Clerk	\$ 600 × 48—\$1,080	Junior	\$ 384 × 48—\$ 720
Third " "	\$ 384 × 48—\$ 528		× 72—\$1,200
Clerk in training	\$288		\$288

Subordinate Officers

Sub Class I	\$480 × 48—\$720
Sub Class II	\$408 × 24—\$480
Sub Class III	\$312 × 24—\$408
Sub Class IV	\$216 × 14.40—\$288

Police Force

Sub Inspector	\$1,200 × 48—\$1,440
Band Master	\$1,200 × 48—\$1,440
Station Sergeant	\$ 768 × 48—\$ 864
Sergeants	\$ 624 × 28.80—\$768
Corporals	\$ 576 × 24—\$624
Lance Corporals	\$ 528 × 24—\$576
Constables	\$ 432 × 24—\$528
Recruits	\$ 288 for 1st six months
	\$ 384 for 2nd " "

Rates of cost-of-living bonus payable to employees in the Public Service

Salaries :	up to \$288	per annum	40 per cent
	from \$292.80—\$720	" "	30 " "
	" \$724.80—\$1,200	" "	20 " "
	" \$1,202.80—\$1,920	" "	10 " "
	over \$1,920	" "	\$192 per annum

APPENDIX III

SUMMARY OF LABOUR LEGISLATION

Legislation dealing with Trade Unions

Trade Unions Regulations, No. 16 of 1937.

Trade Unions and Trade Dispute Ordinance, No. 4 of 1948.

The Trade Unions and Trade Disputes Ordinance, No. 4 of 1948 repealed Ordinances Nos. 26 of 1933, 25 of 1939, 11 of 1941 and 6 of 1942.

Legislation dealing with the Employment of Women and Children.

Employment of Women, Young Persons and Children Ordinance, No. 22 of 1934.

Employment of Women, Young Persons and Children (Amendment) Ordinance, No. 9 of 1939.

Employment of Women Ordinance, No. 8 of 1946 (not yet proclaimed to be in operation).

Legislation establishing wage fixing machinery.

Daily Labourers Wages Payment Ordinance, No. 13 of 1924.

Labour (Minimum Wage) Ordinance, No. 5 of 1935.

Labour (Minimum Wage) (Amendment) Ordinance, No. 3 of 1937.

Labour (Minimum Wage) (Amendment) Ordinance, No. 6 of 1938.

Labour (Minimum Wage) (Amendment) Ordinance, No. 24 of 1941.

Labour (Coaling Industry) (Minimum Wage) Order, No. 63 of 1941.

Labour (Minimum Wage) (Agricultural Labourers) Order, No. 64 of 1946 as amended by S.R. & O. No. 19 of 1950.

Labour (Minimum Wage) (Shop Assistants) Order, No. 2 of 1949 as amended by S.R. & O. No. 18 of 1950.

Legislation dealing with Arbitration

Trade Disputes (Arbitration and Inquiry) Ordinance, No. 15 of 1940.

Legislation dealing with Workmen's Compensation

Workmen's Compensation Ordinance, No. 7 of 1941.

Workmen's Compensation (Amendment) Ordinance, No. 4 of 1942.

Workmen's Compensation (Amendment) Ordinance, No. 7 of 1949.

Workmen's Compensation Regulations, No. 58 of 1942.

Factory Legislation

Factories Ordinance, No. 8 of 1943.

Factory Regulations, No. 8 of 1948.

Steam Boilers Ordinance, No. 1 of 1932.

Employers and Servants Legislation

Employers and Servants Ordinance, No. 29 of 1938.

Employers and Servants (Amendment) Ordinance, No. 23 of 1941.

Recruitment of Workers Legislation

Recruiting of Workers Ordinance, No. 31 of 1939

Recruiting of Workers (Amendment) Ordinance, No. 2 of 1941.

Recruiting of Workers Regulations, No. 13 of 1942.

Legislation Relating to Working Hours

Shop (Hours) Ordinance, No. 5 of 1941.

Shop (Hours) (Amendment) Ordinance, No. 28 of 1949.

Shop (Hours) Order, No. 2 of 1942 as amended by S.R. & O. No. 51 of 1942.

Labour Welfare Legislation

Sugar Export Cess Ordinance, No. 5 of 1947.

Sugar Cess (Administration) Regulations, No. 1 of 1948.

APPENDIX IV

STATEMENT OF COLONIAL DEVELOPMENT AND WELFARE SCHEMES INITIATED AND IN PROGRESS IN 1949 AND 1950

Scheme No.	Title	Grant Approved 1949 & 1950	Expenditure 1949	Expenditure 1950
		\$	\$	\$
D 13C (ag)	Purchase of Portable Gramophone	72	36	—
D 67J	Vigie Airport Completion	183,600	7,291	—
D 91 (a) A	Morne Giraud (Supp.)	8,160	355	82
D 92	Agricultural Superintendent (Staff)	37,540	5,532	—
D 93 (a)	Pasture Improvement	2,400	66	—
D 94	Forest Conservation	2,400	329	—
D 95A	Unescheated Lands	33,600	2,344	3,172
D 156	Health Centre	135,465	2,163	2,469
D 156A	Soufrière Hospital (Supp.)	3,408	123	58
D 200B (ar)	Training of Forestry Officers	2,011	147	—
*D 200C (u)	Training in Domestic Science (Barbados)	1,440	1,389	—
D 201A (m)	Training of Medical Officer in Leprosy (Control and Treatment)	480	384	—
D 201A (2)z	Visit of Dr. Simmonds	240	—	208
D 376/A	Black Bay Land Settlement	123,696	6,660	2,256
D 452	Improvement to Vieux Fort Hospital	17,040	122	24
D 607	Fishery Development	14,880	3,131	2,973
D 649	Vieux-Fort Water Supply	58,224	5,944	15,037
D 660	Soufrière Agricultural Centre	34,992	254	7,970
D 661	Castries Sanitation	26,400	4,744	—
D 690	Marketing Organisation	24,000	4,675	817
D 690 (a)	Co-operative Societies Officer	21,600	3,162	2,006
D 700	Castries Water Supply	120,000	62,833	4,056
D 724	Education Officer	31,243	7,029	6,219
D 734/A	Executive Architect	77,284	16,427	22,429
D 781	Teacher Training, St. Lucia	68,731	19,542	24,106
D 800	Extension of Cocoa Industry	114,110	23,647	21,427
D 889/A	Central Housing and Planning Authority	35,337	5,953	7,920
D 942	Assistant Inspector of Schools	11,361	2,271	2,338
D 946	Interest Charge Castries Water Supply Loan	10,080	4,473	2,213
D 947	Agricultural Development Dennerly Vieux Fort Area	148,449	67,525	14,373
D 957	Laboratory Equipment, St. Mary's College	4,800	2,170	536
D 969	Engineering Staff Public Works Department	60,480	11,317	9,252
D 969A	Additional Engineering Staff	46,329	5,443	11,914
D 989	Maintenance of Lepers in British Guiana	10,560	10,560	—
D 1000	Health Centres	81,240	39,914	8,058
D 1001	Demolition of Vigie Barrack Block	33,600	2,062	—
D 1002/A	School Buildings	119,649	81,026	38,055
D 1024	Teacher Training, Trinidad	2,880	2,441	—
D 1028	Assistant Social Welfare Officer	11,702	2,990	3,548
D 1040	Fisheries, St. Lucia	3,216	1,616	—
D 1094	Teacher Training, Antigua	907	907	—
D 1101/A	Fire Fighting Services	39,451	35,403	—
D 1101C	" " " "	5,582	5,582	—
D 1101B/D	" " " "	13,920	—	—
D 1110	Dennerly Vieux Fort Road	116,414	116,414	—
D 1113	Additional Staff for Reconstruction of Castries	33,244	10,531*	14,989
D 1116	Swamp Reclamation	16,080	4,682	4,032
D 1123	Equipment for Primary Schools	15,456	8,018	5,667
D 1129	Acquisition of Land	168,000	710	181,566
D 1153	Staff Quarters, Offices and Stores	208,032	236,979	61,766
D 1155/A	Visit of Valuers	5,760	6,486	—
D 1160	Zenon-De Colon Road	3,840	3,749	—

APPENDIX IV *continued*

**STATEMENT OF COLONIAL DEVELOPMENT AND
WELFARE SCHEMES INITIATED AND IN PROGRESS
IN 1949 AND 1950**

<i>Scheme No.</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Grant Approved 1949 & 1950</i>	<i>Expenditure 1949</i>	<i>Expenditure 1950</i>
		\$	\$	\$
D 1199/A	Housing in Burnt Area	280,320	44,066	236,254
D 1212	Vide Bouteille Housing	72,000	80 191	20,913
D 1225	Compensation and Demolition	196,800	10,938	210,563
D 1229	Additional Architectural Staff	7,987	7,985	—
D 1231	Agricultural Superintendent-Staff	46,123	760	16,615
D 1239	Purchase of Land for Housing in Burnt Area	48,000	45,771	218,779
D 1249	Banana Industry	28,800	1,953	9,297
D 100 (a)	Timber Tests in West Indies	240	21	—
D 1108(12)	Training of Sanitary Inspector (Renee) in Jamaica	1,430	—	806
D 1108(83)	Training of School Teacher and Health Nurse in Jamaica	3,216	—	1,645
D 1267	Repairs to Anse la Raye Bridge	6,768	—	6,373
D 1283	Public Health Engineering Staff	33,580	—	6,749
D 1300	Fire and Port Police Station	214,320	—	—
D 1333	Roads	19,200	—	43,286
D 1330	La Fargue Investigation and Demon- stration Centre	42,774	—	—
D 1428	Public Health Engineering Works	37,449	—	5,616
D 1507	Castries Methodist School	32,400	—	172
D 1397	Forest Preservation	32,587	—	—

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PART I

General Review

Constitutional Developments. Both the Executive and the Legislative Councils were reconstituted in 1951.

Executive Council consists of four *ex officio* members (including the Governor if he is present in the Colony), one official member, one nominated member of Legislative Council and three elected members of Legislative Council.

Legislative Council consists of three *ex officio* members, three nominated members and eight elected members. The Administrator, one of the *ex officio* members, is President. The office of Deputy President is filled by a member elected by the Council from among its members. Elections to the Council were conducted for the first time in 1951 on the basis of universal adult suffrage. For further details see Part III, Chapter 3.

Economic matters. Her Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom continues to make available financial assistance in the form of grants-in-aid to maintain adequate standards of administration.

During the year 1952 Her Majesty's Government reviewed the procedure relating to the financial control of the territories in receipt of grants-in-aid in the light of proposals submitted by representatives from the Colonial Office and from Her Majesty's Treasury who visited a number of Treasury controlled territories including this Colony.

Under the revised system Her Majesty's Government will make available a block grant to be agreed annually before the budget is submitted to the Legislature. This sum which will be issued as a matter of course and not merely on proof of need will be added to the territory's own estimated revenues in order to balance its budget. This means that the Legislature is now able to consider estimates in the full knowledge of all financial resources. (Assistance in connection with expenditure on development is dealt with separately from special funds which have been set aside by Parliament).

This revised system of financial control will tend to eliminate any possible conflict between the desire on the part of the territory to receive grants-in-aid to maintain adequate standards of administration and the desire to secure release from the restrictions necessarily associated with Treasury control in order that the Legislature may fully perform the functions for which the constitution provides.

It is hoped that a suitable candidate will soon be appointed to the post of Development Commissioner as so much depends upon such an appointment being made without further delay to enable agricultural policy, which is the most important item in the Colony's programme of development, to be vigorously pursued.

In this connection the following extracts at (a) and (b) are pertinent.

(a) From the Administrator's Address in presenting the budget at the Legislative Council meeting of 12th December, 1951 :

"The broad outlines of the agricultural development programme have been shown in the Report of the Team of Experts which visited this Colony last April and whose preliminary report has been published.

"One of the chief problems confronting the Team has been the fact that so much land in St. Lucia is alienated in small parcels rendering it extremely difficult to grow any crops on any scale and to inculcate good farming methods. For this reason a 'group' approach will be recommended entailing the acquisition of areas of land by purchase or lease and the planning of their total use from hill crest to valley bottom on the basis of a number of individual holdings but under central control. The area would then be laid out and developed using the existing or prospective farmers as labour. When the holdings are in production they would be handed over to the farmers under certain conditions of occupancy to ensure security of capital investment.

"An important recommendation of the Team will be the establishment of a Development Authority which would be responsible for questions of policy connected with all aspects of development including road development, the implementation of development schemes and the administration of funds made available.

"In advance of the complete recommendations of the Team which will cover all agricultural possibilities, steps have already been taken to obtain financial assistance for increasing the output of sugar cane by cane farmers, for the financing and reorganisation of the Banana Association with technical assistance and for obtaining the services of an agricultural development officer. I greatly hope that real progress along these lines will be made in 1952."

(b) From the Acting Administrator's Address in presenting the budget at the Legislative Council meeting of 8th December, 1952 :

"The outstanding event of the year has been the publication of the long awaited Report of the Team of Experts. Some £200,000 (\$960,000-00) of C.D. & W. funds are earmarked for general agricultural development. No news has yet been received of the appointment of a Development Commissioner who will be charged with the execution of the recommendations in the Report but in the meantime substantial schemes have been prepared and submitted to the Secretary of State for the redevelopment of banana and cocoa cultivations. These schemes provide for adequate disease control, soil conservation and plant propagation. A scheme has also been approved for assisting peasant cane farmers in expanding their output. As soon as the necessary staff can be recruited this scheme will be put into effect. The coconut industry has advanced with the

installation of an oil factory. Acreage under cultivation has increased by some 100 acres. The Regional Agreement has raised the price of copra from £60 (\$288.00) to £62 10s. (\$300.00) per ton. Unfortunately, producers of coconuts are threatened with a falling trend in world prices. The effect has already been observed locally, and measures to safeguard producer interests are being taken. It is hoped that a sub-agreement within the framework of the Regional Agreement will be negotiated between Barbados and the Windward Islands in the near future. Recommendations have been made by the Team of Experts for improving and extending our livestock industry and it is hoped that a lucrative export trade will develop if we are spared from the scourge of foot and mouth disease which now threatens this area. Energetic counter measures are being taken . . .

“During the year the re-development of the Vigie Peninsular has been proceeding. The Scheme has not been completed, but it is safe to say that Government will incur no financial loss on the project. Indeed the loan capital raised to purchase the area was estimated by the Financial and Economic Adviser, Windward Islands, to have been recoverable in its entirety within fifteen years. Recovery of this capital may safely be anticipated before the end of 1953. In addition, Government will retain for its own purposes some of the most valuable residences in the area with some forty acres of land. In short, the recovery of capital will occur in slightly over two years instead of the fifteen years originally estimated. The total area purchased was 143 acres.

“In the new year the Central Authority will undertake the general administration of the area

“These estimates do not take into account the report on Organisation and Method which will be received in due course nor do they take cognisance of the report on Salaries Revision which we expect to receive in December. Nevertheless, personal emoluments in these Estimates represent some 52 per cent of our local revenues. On the assumption that salaries revision will involve us in additional commitments, it is clear that our overheads are not justified by our turnover.

“Therefore, we must, in 1953, be jealous of expenditure and acquisitive of revenue. A committee has been set up to revise our existing fiscal measures, and to ensure that maximum collections are made. We have also taken steps to prune expenditure in certain unprofitable avenues such as the operation of the electricity and other services at Beane Field and to introduce a Lotteries Bill.

“In the meantime, the Financial Secretary is finding it difficult to control expenditure on account of the constantly increasing pressure by departments for additional funds.

“I cannot foresee any startling increase in revenue in the near future, and I do not consider it propitious to embark upon a camp-

align of increased taxation at a moment when we appear to be drifting into harder times. Policy should be directed to reducing expenditure rather than to introducing new taxation. For the future we must plan and hope for increased production arising from the putting into effect of the recommendations in the Team of Experts' Report but, in the final analysis, our gradual progress towards economic stability must be conditioned by the capacity of our ordinary people to put our plans into effect. The speed of Government's advance is the speed of the people. We can lead and we can guide, but those of us who serve the Crown cannot carry or drive the people, nor can we manufacture prosperity from the void.

"Our standard of living is rising because we have been financed by free grants from Her Majesty's Government, and because we have raised loans on the security of our future prospects. Apart from the promised annual grants-in-aid and the Team of Experts allocation, our grant resources have virtually ceased, and our loan potential is now fully extended. We can no longer expect free gifts and we cannot incur further mortgages upon our future. We must produce more and aim to erase the gap between our exports and imports. In short, we must destroy for ever our adverse balance of trade commitments. Within the next few months the vast volume of expenditure on Castries Reconstruction, which, from all sources including private building, has been in the order of some \$10,000,000 over a period of four years, will cease. There is on the horizon no comparable investment expenditure projected for the next four years. The putting into effect of the recommendations of the Team of Experts' Report will only prime the pump of our economic recovery. Fortuitous events like the establishment of some personnel of the new West India Regiment in the Colony are merely small subscriptions towards our renaissance. The answer is to be found only in hard work and production.

"There are three important elements in production—the land, capital and labour. Without any of the three there can be no production. The land must be cultivated and cherished, capital must be encouraged and labour must be fairly remunerated. The employer has his place as much as the worker. One cannot survive without the other. Accordingly, I must, in the name of production, advocate for 1953 the fostering of an *esprit de corps* between capital and labour. I hope that the uneasy truce which now exists will be supplanted by a comradeship of effort ; and that the Report on the Sugar Strike in 1952 will prove a useful contribution towards this end."

Social Developments. Labour unrest, mainly in the sugar industry, has been one of the major concerns of Government. The following extracts at (a) and (b) are of interest :

(a) From the Administrator's Address in presenting the budget at the Legislative Council meeting of 12th December, 1951 :

" Finally before closing this address I should like to say a few words about one of the most important aspects of life in the West Indies today—I refer to relations between employers and employed.

" His Excellency has already emphasised that the basis of this relationship should be mutual respect and understanding—when these are absent there arise the tragic conditions which are unfortunately too well known in this area today.

" I am glad to say that voluntary negotiating machinery known as Works Committees have during the past year been set up to provide recognised means of consultation between management and workers in the essential services of the Colony, namely in water and electricity, health and sanitation and in telephones and communications. A similar Committee has been set up for work on Castries Reconstruction and a marked improvement has been seen in relations wherever these councils exist.

" Legislation designed to establish Wages Councils will shortly come up before this Council.

" The negotiation of wage agreements in the sugar and shipping industries has been a notable step forward and we look forward to the time when all wage agreements can be negotiated between responsible unions and employers.

" In the past Government has endeavoured to ensure that labour is adequately remunerated for work on Castries Reconstruction and for work on Government's behalf ; it is inconceivable that such a policy should not now be followed with labour predominantly represented in both Executive and Legislative Council.

" Whatever grounds there were formerly for the feeling that labour was not receiving due consideration must now be considered to have been removed and there is no reason why St. Lucia's labour problems should not henceforward be conducted in an atmosphere of give and take whatever attitude is adopted in neighbouring colonies. No other approach can enable us to attract capital to this island, retain the industry already established and press forward with our productive schemes in settled conditions."

(b) From the Acting Administrator's Address in presenting the budget at the Legislative Council meeting of 8th December, 1952 :

" Industrial relations are far from satisfactory and unless more genuine efforts are made both by employers and by labour to ease the growing tension we may expect further unprofitable conflicts in the course of the ensuing year.

" The report of the Commission of Enquiry on the Sugar Strike in March this year has been released and Government has accepted and is endeavouring to put its recommendations into effect. It is hoped that all sensible and informed opinion will endorse the establishment of Works Committees and Wages Councils in the Sugar Industry.

"Castries Reconstruction will soon be through but I regret to report that efforts by the Administration to provide, where possible, for the re-employment of discharged workers have met with little or no support from the workers themselves. A special committee under the chairmanship of the Labour Officer has so far secured little co-operation from the workers. It is almost too late for any useful action now to be taken.

"We have continued to recruit workers for the United States of America but the cost to the Colony is becoming almost prohibitive. It is hoped that the situation will adjust itself in the near future."

Representation at Conferences. During 1951 and 1952 the Colony was represented at the following conferences :

- The Civil Aviation Conference held in Trinidad
- The Oils and Fats Conferences held in Barbados
- The fifth West Indian Conference held in Jamaica
- The Social Welfare Conference held in Barbados
- A Conference of Education Officers held in Barbados
- A Conference of Medical Officers held in Barbados
- A Conference of Heads of Police Forces held in Barbados.

PART II

Chapter 1: Population

THE last census was taken in 1946 when the total population was 71,813 (revised figure). The estimated total population was 82,958 (40,318 males and 42,640 females) at the end of 1952, 81,761 (39,678 males and 42,083 females) at the end of 1951 and 80,195 (38,755 males and 41,440 females) at the end of 1950.

The table below sets out the number of births, deaths and migration figures for 1950-52 :

	1950	1951	1952
Births	2,820	2,892	2,906
Deaths	1,184	1,389	1,246
Arrivals	5,984	6,126	6,170
Departures	5,797	6,063	6,633

Birth, death and infant mortality rates are given on page 37.

Chapter 2: Occupations, Wages and Labour Organisation

EMPLOYMENT

The principal industries and occupations are listed below together with the numbers of persons gainfully employed in each according to the 1946 census, but the list gives a very fair indication of the position in 1952 :

<i>Occupation</i>	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
Agriculture	9,696	6,280	15,976
Quarrying & Mining	34	32	66
Fishing & Hunting	1,026	20	1,046
Forestry	69	—	69
Factory & Workshop	1,947	2,633	4,580
Constructional	1,531	1	1,532
Transport	498	36	534
Trade & Commercial	328	821	1,149
Finance & Insurance	6	—	6
Recreational Service	8	1	9
Professional Service	236	365	601
Public Service	486	13	499
Personal Service	207	2,183	2,390
Clerical Occupations	234	111	345
Labourers	1,790	1,173	2,963
Occupations not stated	74	52	126

Only one occupation may be said to have grown completely out of proportion to the figure quoted and that was "Constructional." This abnormal growth was due entirely to the rebuilding of Castries after the devastating fire of 19-20th June, 1948. Most of the extra labour force was drawn from agriculture.

The actual extent of unemployment or under-employment is not known as no reliable statistics are available, but from the official figures of the Census of 1946 the number of persons over the age of ten years not gainfully employed was 18,615. This figure can still be considered more or less realistic despite the sudden influx into constructional work.

Harvesting operations in the sugar industry provided employment for over 5,000 workers as usual. The duration of these operations is generally about 12 weeks after which the labour force dwindles to about one-third.

During 1951-52 the Colony was allowed a small quota of emigrant labour to the United States to work on farms during harvesting seasons. During 1951 150 workers were recruited and in the following year 126. The recruiting formalities were conducted by the Labour Officer and his staff but the screening for final selection was carried out by representatives of the Farmers' Association in the U.S.A.

The Government of the Colony bore all recruiting expenses including medical examination of the selected. Further, the Government advanced the workers the cost of the return fare of that portion of the round trip not advanced by the employers. Those advances were recoverable from the compulsory savings of the workers which were remitted periodically to the Government. A Liaison Office has been set up in Washington with branch offices in certain states for the purpose of ensuring that the terms of the contract are honoured by both parties. The salaries and other expenses of these officers are paid from funds accumulated from deductions of 4 per cent of the gross earnings of the workers.

WAGES AND CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT

The statutory minimum wage as laid down in Labour (Minimum Wage) (Agricultural Labourer) (Amendment) Order No. 19 of 1950 is still in force; it is as follows:

Able-bodied man	84 cents per day
Able-bodied woman	62 " " "
Male juvenile 16-18 years	56 " " "
Female " " " "	44 " " "

As a result of negotiation between the St. Lucia Workers' Co-operative Union and the St. Lucia Sugar Association labour employed in the sugar industry received the following rates of pay in 1951 and 1952:

	1951	1952
Able-bodied male	\$1.06 per day	\$1.22 per day
Able-bodied female	.72 " "	.82 " "
Male juvenile 16-18 years	.61 " "	.70 " "
Female juvenile 16-18 years	.49½ " "	.53 " "
Boys 14-16 years	. " "	.56½ " "
Girls 14-16 years	. " "	.53 " "

OCCUPATIONS, WAGES AND LABOUR ORGANISATION 11

During 1952 labour employed on cocoa and coconut estates received the following rates of wages.

Able-bodied male	\$1.00 per day
Able-bodied female	.84 per day

The wages paid to workers on the rebuilding of Castries were, in cents per hour, as follows :

CRAFT	APPRENTICES		SEMI SKILLED		TRADESMEN		FOREMEN	
	Min.	Max.	Min.	Max.	Min.	Max.	Min.	Max.
Electricians, Welders, Turners, Mechanical Equipment Operators	10½	13½	16½	21½	22½	34½	35½	51½
Joiners, Mechanics	10½	13½	16½	18½	19½	29½	30½	43½
Masons, Carpenters, Plumbers, Painters, Drillers, Smiths	10½	13½	16½	18½	18½	26½	27½	39½
Chauffeurs					19½	28½		
	NORMAL RATE		SEMI SKILLED		GANGERS			
	Min.	Max.	Min.	Max.	Min.		Max.	
Labourers: Male	13	15	16½	18½	19½		31½	
Female	11	13						
Watchmen	13½							
Timekeepers, Storekeepers, Checkers	21½	30½						

Free housing is provided on sugar plantations for about 15 per cent of the workers and on a number of the other estates where mixed farming is carried on. The normal working day for work performed on a time basis is 8 hours. Work performed in excess of 8 hours is paid at time and a half.

Night work is performed in the sugar and baking industries but in the case of the former only during harvesting operations.

In the sugar industry, Public Works Department, Telephone Department and Castries Reconstruction after 234 days of continuous employment in any one year the worker is entitled to seven days holiday with pay.

Commercial clerks and shop assistants are allowed two weeks holiday with pay annually according to law.

By joint agreement workers in construction, longshoremen and Public Works employees are allowed pay on two public holidays viz. Good Friday and Christmas Day.

COST OF LIVING

The following figures show the monthly changes in the cost-of-living index for 1951 and 1952 (September, 1939 = 100) :

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
1951	242	242	243	248	249	254	256	257	259	259	260	260
1952	260	261	262	265	268	271	272	272	276	276	276	276

Prices for the principal foodstuffs for the years 1951 and 1952 were as follows (cents per pound) :

	1951	1952
Beef	28	32
Sugar (dark)	8	10
Fish (fresh)	14	18
Fish (salt)	31	32
Vegetables (green)	8	10

LABOUR DEPARTMENT

The Labour Ordinance enacted in 1938 established the post of Secretary for Labour and Labour Officer and outlined his principal duties as follows :

- (a) to supervise and review the various forms of employment of labour which exist in the Colony ;
- (b) to ensure the due enforcement of labour legislation in the Colony ;
- (c) to bring to the notice of the Governor every matter or thing which is likely to be prejudicial to the welfare of any class of labour, or cause any disagreement between labourers and their employers ;
- (d) to make recommendations to the Governor from time to time for the promoting of the general welfare of labourers.

The Labour Ordinance provides that the Secretary for Labour shall be *ex officio* a Labour Inspector and confers on him powers of entry into all places where work is proceeding. In addition he is the Chief Factory Inspector and exercises all the powers which the Factories Ordinance confers.

The Assistant Labour Officer assists the Labour Officer generally in the performance of his duties. His more specific duties, however, are the collection and compilation of statistical data and the cost-of-living index. He intervenes as conciliator in minor disputes between employer and employee, and in his capacity as a minimum wage inspector, periodically pays visits of inspection to commercial houses and estates.

During the period under review 271 visits of inspection were paid to sugar and other estates and commercial houses.

The following breaches of labour laws were revealed by inspections.

- (a) Shop assistants being paid less than the amounts prescribed.
- (b) Shop Assistants being employed for periods far in excess of the total number of working hours as laid down in the Shops (Hours) Ordinance No. 5 of 1941 Sec. 14.
- (c) Wage sheets and records of wages paid not being kept as required by the provision of the Labour (Minimum Wage) (Amendment) Ordinance No. 3 of 1927 Section 8a.

INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS

Trade Unions

The St. Lucia Workers' Co-operative Union, which was registered on 9th March, 1939, caters for all occupations ; its membership, which was reported to be 6,000 in 1947-48, suffered a decline to about 1,200 in 1952, half of whom probably did not pay their dues. Interest among members in the twenty branches formed in the outlying districts has waned due perhaps to the ignorance of the functions of a trade union. Only two branches were known to be functioning at the close of 1952.

The St. Lucia Seamen and Waterfront Workers' Union, which was registered on 2nd August, 1945, was reported to have 1,100 members at the end of 1952, half of whom did not pay dues.

The Civil Service Association, which caters for the needs of public officers only, was registered as a union on 16th May, 1951.

The Teachers Union, which has been in existence since 1934, was registered as a trade union on 7th August, 1951.

The Roseau Peasants and Workers Union, which sought to cater for all workers in the sugar industry, was registered on 5th February, 1952.

Joint Consultation and Wage Fixing Methods

The enactment of a Wages Council Ordinance No. 1 of 1952 provided new machinery for the fixing of wages in unorganised or poorly organised industries. The method of fixing wages by Order-in-Council on the recommendation of a Labour Advisory Board will be eventually discontinued.

The Workers' Co-operative Union and the Seamen and Waterfront Workers' Union continued to make voluntary joint agreements with employers.

Five Works Committees were established, the Health, Municipal, Telephone and Public Works services, and that section of the building industry supervised by the Colonial Development Corporation.

A Whitley Council for public service workers continued to exist.

Trade Disputes

A number of strikes in the sugar areas occurred during the harvesting season. The following is a brief history of some of the occurrences :

On 12th February, 1951, the day on which the crop commenced on the Dennery sugar estates, the workers of one estate struck for five hours. This incident was caused by a suspicion of the workers that rates for harvesting operations announced by their employers were less than those agreed on with their union. The union concerned had failed to publicise in that area the rates agreed upon at a joint meeting with the sugar manufacturers. They corrected this omission the same day. The Labour Department confirmed that the rates announced were those voluntarily negotiated. The workers appeared convinced and resumed work the following day without incident.

On 3rd March, 1952, the workers of Crownlands, an estate in the Cul-de-Sac sugar valley, went on strike, and insisted that the workers on an adjoining estate should stop work also. According to the workers the reason for striking was that the management was manipulating their scales and thereby defrauding them of their weights for canes reaped. They demanded that they should be paid by the wagon load and not on a tonnage basis. The workers resumed work three days later. They were informed that it was the intention of the Government to appoint weight inspectors who would supervise the recording of weights of canes reaped. This arrangement appeared to satisfy them.

On 11th March, 1952, workers of the Roseau sugar estate went on strike. The following day the Cul-de-Sac workers did the same and by the 17th the Dennery sugar valley followed. The strike lasted 13 days and involved 5,000 workers.

A commission of inquiry to investigate the cause of the third strike reported as follows :

- “(1) The deep rooted dissatisfaction of the workers with regard to the method of payment for cutting, heading and loading canes, brought about by—
- (a) An unwarranted suspicion that the weighing machines at the factories were being manipulated for the purpose of falsifying and reducing the weights of canes delivered at the factory. (If this suspicion were well founded, workers whose wages are calculated on the weight of the canes would receive less wages than they were justly entitled to receive).
 - (b) The belief of workers that in the course of transporting canes from the fields to the weighing machines by means of open trucks drawn by locomotives, large quantities of canes were spilt and that workers were not being paid for cutting, heading or loading the canes which had been spilt.

- (c) Shrinkage in the weight of canes between the time of cutting and the time of weighing, resulting in workers (through no fault of theirs) not being paid for the full weight of canes actually cut, headed or loaded by them.
- (d) Errors in weighing canes at the weighing stations.
- (2) The unsympathetic attitude of employers to their workers. The lack of interest taken by them in the workers, and in the conditions under which they work and live. The failure of employers to appreciate that workers have a point of view which should be considered, and that attention should be paid to the grievances of workers and efforts made to ameliorate them.
- (3) The ineffectiveness of the St. Lucia Workers' Co-operative Union in regard to the organisation and welfare of workers in the sugar industry.
- (4) The impact of a high and rising cost of living.
- (5) The dissatisfaction of contributors and metayers with regard to the prices paid for sugar canes by the sugar companies.
- (6) The propaganda of Mr. W. G. Brown, during his electioneering campaign of 1951, backed up by promises that if elected to the Legislative Council he would obtain for workers higher wages and better working conditions.
- (7) The conviction that the sugar companies were making huge profits which would be increased with the increase in the price of sugar in the year 1952.
- (8) The immaturity of trade unionism in St. Lucia.
- (9) The absence in the sugar industry of adequate negotiating machinery in which the workers themselves can play a part."

The ending of the strike, in the words of the Commission, had "a blurred appearance." On 15th March the Government issued a statement announcing its intention to set up a commission of inquiry after the strike ended and advising workers on the Roseau and Cul-de-Sac estates to resume work. But "until it was known when a full supply of cane would be forthcoming it was impossible to give a definite date in respect of the normal restarting of either factory and until a fairly definite date of restarting was fixed there was considerable uncertainty about the employment of cane cutters." However "the field labour force gradually built up from 24th March, and by 28th March the Roseau and Cul-de-Sac valleys could be regarded as back to normal." The strike on Dennery had started on the 17th and the management decided to restart work on the 24th ; on that date all the workers returned to work.

LABOUR LEGISLATION

During 1951 and 1952 the following legislation was enacted :
 The Trade Unions and Trade Disputes (Amendment) Ordinance,
 No. 18 of 1951 ;
 Accidents and Occupational Diseases (Notification) Ordinance, No.
 3 of 1952 ;
 Wages Councils Ordinance, No. 1 of 1952 ;
 Labour (Minimum Wage) (Amendment) S.R. & O., No. 58 of 1951 ;
 Workmen's Compensation (Amendment) Ordinance, No. 6 of 1952.

SAFETY, HEALTH AND WELFARE

Very little progress has been made but the provisions of the relevant Factories Regulations are gradually becoming effective. Although there is some improvement in the sanitary conveniences in the sugar factories, the employers appear not to see the necessity for providing necessary and proper amenities for their workers.

The Sugar Labour Welfare Fund Committee has embarked on a housing scheme for sugar workers. Land had been donated by the management of the Cul-de-Sac and Roseau Companies for the purpose. It is intended that the type of building erected by the committee should serve as a pattern for the workers, who under a scheme of aided self-help should put up their own homes.

The Workmen's Compensation (Amendment) Ordinance, 1949, provides for the payment of compensation to workers or their dependants in case of accidents arising out of and in the course of their work as follows :

Death :	36 months' wages or £400
Burial Expenses :	£8 0s. 0d.
Permanent total disablement	Adult : 48 months' wages or £400 Minor : 96 months' wages or £400
Temporary disablement	Adult : $\frac{1}{3}$ of monthly wage paid monthly. Minor : $\frac{1}{6}$ of monthly wage paid half monthly.

There are no legislative or other provisions relating to unemployment.

INDUSTRIAL TRAINING

There is no organised scheme for vocational training or apprenticeship. Apprentices are employed in the Public Works Department and the sugar factories and are taught carpentry, smithery and motor mechanics. Printers, joiners and cobblers also accept apprentices in their small shops and printeries.

A committee appointed by Government to advise on the establishment of an organised system of apprenticeship has reported, and a select committee was appointed to go into the financial implications of the report.

Chapter 3 : Public Finance and Taxation

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE

The main heads of revenue and expenditure in 1949, 1950, 1951 and 1952 were as follows :

	1952	1951	1950*	1949
	\$	\$	\$	\$
Import Duties	970,153	964,570	678,387	733,973
Export Duties	153,078	103,837	80,221	67,400
Excise Duties	230,344	237,011	128,212	145,823
Other Duties	20,542	29,791	104,326	11,577
Licences	36,576	32,177	29,362	25,705
Taxes	456,334	321,503	241,884	258,769
Harbour Dues	33,395	40,999	39,475	25,322
Other fees of Administration	257,508	346,321	56,741	254,067
Post Office	61,526	101,868	84,744	291,138
Electricity, Telephones, etc. .	14,656	12,154	312,181	7,344
Rent and Interest	53,752	80,527	48,390	37,233
Repayments of Loans and Advances	2,364	261	—	2,932
Sale of Crown Lands	93,190	12,077	1,217	2,739
Total Local Revenue	2,383,418	2,283,096	1,805,140	1,864,022
Colonial Development and Welfare	1,064,713	1,661,744	1,152,154	981,130
Imperial Grant-in-aid (Castries)	1,188,615	512,071	278,192	65,949
Imperial Grant-in-aid of Administration	631,030	—	—	—
Total Revenue	5,267,776	4,456,911	3,235,486	2,911,101

* The main heads of revenue in 1950 are not strictly comparable with those in 1949, 1951 and 1952.

	1952	1951	1950	1949
	\$	\$	\$	\$
Governor	11,925	11,542	8,061	8,970
Legislature	16,007	19,557	10,130	6,637
Administration	92,799	89,692	121,711	102,197
Agriculture	93,551	104,000	119,516	123,607
Audit	14,432	13,097	10,545	10,978
Central Housing Authority . .	522	11,824	34,872	—
Charitable	—	—	—	—
Ecclesiastical	—	—	—	11,520
Education	266,625	245,754	147,349	135,388
Electricity	—	—	—	—
Judicial	26,417	22,902	18,615	—
Labour	13,341	10,968	5,739	5,586
Lands and Survey	27,062	27,384	20,806	16,630

ST. LUCIA

	1952	1951	1950	1949
	\$	\$	\$	\$
Legal	25,524	26,559	18,105	36,468
Loans and Advances Repayments	3,860	6,322	—	—
Medical	253,880	231,168	190,183	173,537
Miscellaneous	378,922	249,365	405,304	—
Pensions	77,597	87,483	63,909	53,520
Police	268,028	224,098	148,770	139,510
Port and Marine	26,480	26,045	22,235	19,565
Post Office	50,750	40,030	53,077	45,384
Prisons	44,698	40,236	31,896	36,988
Public Debt	124,022	146,305	102,206	38,173
Public Library	5,910	4,345	—	—
P.W.D.	64,414	48,913	38,478	112,900
P.W.D. Annually Recurrent	287,454	280,815	194,859	241,620
P.W.D. Extraordinary	109,302	95,291	58,823	—
Social Welfare	31,043	31,041	22,273	—
Subventions	66,852	70,517	11,580	—
Supply Control	—	—	14,809	—
Telephones	36,044	33,767	27,485	30,566
Treasury	98,773	90,780	67,682	64,324
Total Local Expenditure	2,516,234	2,290,200	1,969,018	1,725,878
Colonial Development and Welfare	956,430	1,527,824	1,295,433	1,033,813
Imperial Grant-in-aid	1,206,372	426,182	293,492	118,749
Expenditure Surplus Balance	—	—	—	110,306
Total Expenditure	4,679,036	4,244,206	3,557,943	2,988,746

ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

<i>Liabilities</i>	1951	<i>Assets</i>	
	\$		\$
Special funds	2,163,426 ·67	Advances	2,059,907 ·15
Towns and Villages	4,272 ·41	Castries Town Board	211,534 ·06
Deposits, Miscellaneous	7,649 ·08	Drafts and Remittances	38,583 ·24
Joint Colonial Fund	1,257,600 ·00	Investments	935,427 ·84
Surplus Reserve Fund	456,000 ·00	Post Office Account	1,624 ·34
Cash—Overdraft	280,298 ·19	Bank Deposits	14,196 ·03
		Towns and Villages	13,828 ·31
		General and Revenue	
		Balance Account	894,145 ·38
		(Deficit)	
	4,169,246 ·35		4,169,246 ·35
<i>Liabilities</i>	1952	<i>Assets</i>	
	\$		\$
Special Funds	1,645,127 ·58	Advances	1,643,649 ·10
Castries Town Board	11,560 ·01	Castries Town Board	210,882 ·98
Towns and Villages	4,966 ·22	Drafts and Remittances	79,363 ·71
Deposits Miscellaneous	137,487 ·57	Post Office Account	5,744 ·72
Joint Colonial Fund	696,000 ·00	Investments	1,268,152 ·49
Surplus—Reserve Fund	456,000 ·00	Bank Deposits	14,350 ·23
Cash—Overdraft	579,302 ·66	General Revenue Balance	
		Account (Deficit)	308,300 ·81
	\$3,530,444 ·04		\$3,530,444 ·04

STATEMENT OF THE PUBLIC DEBT AT 31ST DECEMBER, 1952.

Description of Debt or Loan	Amount of Original Loan	When Incurred and purpose	Amount Outstanding	Rate of Interest	Provision for Repayment and Legal Authority	Date Payable	AMOUNT OF SINKING FUND		Remarks
							Amount of Stock	Value of Stock	
Local Conversion Loan	\$79,903.76	1939. For payment of 5% local loan Cap. 62 of 1916 Revised laws, 5% loan for construction of Baron Wing at Victoria Hospital, Ordinance No. 3 of 1917; 5% local loan Ordinance No. 10 of 1918; Baron Charitable Trust Ordinance (Purchase) of Baron Asylum, Cap. 73 of 1916 Revised Laws.	\$79,903.76	3 1/2 %	Ordinance No. 24 of 1938	1959	\$48,254.10	\$45,473.82	
Land Settlement Loan : Colonial Development and Welfare Scheme D. 497	115,200.00	1945. For the purchase of the Barbados Settlement Co. land in the Vieux Fort area.	115,200.00	—	—	—	—	—	Loan free of interest in the first instance. Terms of repayment to be considered later.
Black Bay Estate Acquisition Loan, Colonial Development and Welfare Scheme D. 376	47,136.00	1945. For the purchase of certain lands belonging to the Barbados Settlement Co.	38,950.84	3 1/2 %	—	—	—	—	Loan free of interest for the first 5 years, then repayment by 15 equated annuities. No statutory authority.
St. Lucia Fire (St. Vincent Eruption Loan Account)	120,000.00	1948. For Castries Fire Relief	60,000.00	—	—	—	—	—	Free of interest repayable in 10 years.
Castries Reconstruction Loan	1,958,400.00	1949. For re-lending to persons for private re-building whose houses were destroyed by fire on 19-20 June, 1948. For sewerage and housing scheme for the town of Castries, 1949. For housing Vide Boutelle	1,958,400.00	3 1/2 %	Ordinance No. 9 of 1949	1965-70	100,834.58	85,776.92	
Vide Boutelle Scheme Loan	21,600.00		21,600.00	3 1/2 %	—	—	—	—	Interest payable after 3 years.
	<u>\$2,342,239.76</u>		<u>\$2,274,054.60</u>				<u>\$149,088.68</u>	<u>\$131,250.74</u>	

MAIN HEADS OF TAXATION

	1949	1950	1951	1952
	\$	\$	\$	\$
Import Duties	684,054	678,387	964,570	970,153
Export Duties	67,400	80,221	103,836	153,078
Excise Duty on Rum	132,826	121,862	140,199	167,109
Excise Duty on Sugar	12,997	6,350	11,120	2,793
Trade Duty on Spirits	49,919	83,863	85,692	60,443
Income Tax	253,075	235,157	313,251	425,182
Succession Duty	5,259	12,395	17,364	11,895
Rural House Tax	5,620	6,527	8,052	27,036
Stamp Duty	6,318	8,067	12,427	8,647

Import Duties

Ad valorem and specific rates of duty are paid on imports of food, drink, and tobacco, raw materials and unmanufactured articles, and articles wholly or mainly manufactured ; specific rates are paid on animals not for food ; bullion and specie are exempted.

The principal imports of food, drink and tobacco are beer and stout, grain (rice, flour, cornmeal and other cereals), preserves, milk, pickled meats, hams and bacon, tea, coffee, tobacco, cigarettes, edible fats, butter and lard. The main imports of raw materials and unmanufactured articles are leather and lumber ; those of articles wholly or mainly manufactured are wearing apparel, cotton piece-goods, hardware, machinery, medicines, metals, paints and colours, and other manufactures of wood and timber.

The cost of goods for the purpose of ascertaining the amount of *ad valorem* duty payable is calculated on the price charged for the goods by the vendor and verified by the genuine invoice of such goods. The calculation is based upon on all charges on such goods up to the time of their arrival in the Colony ; if the goods have been procured otherwise than by bona-fide purchase the *ad valorem* duty is calculated on the actual market value of such goods in the Colony at the time the goods are removed from bond.

Articles imported by or for the use of Her Majesty's Naval or Military Forces, the Police Force, Girl Guide and Boy Scout Association, the Colonial Government, the Governor or the Administrator, and municipal authorities, and several other articles listed under Ordinance No. 8 of 1940, for the purpose of encouraging trade and commerce, local agriculture and scientific investigation, are exempted from payment of import duty. A preference of approximately one-third is in many cases allowed on goods of Commonwealth origin. The margin of preference is fixed by agreement.

The Governor in Council may remit or authorise the exemption of import duty or refund in whole or in part any customs duty payable or paid by any person or on any goods not specified in the table of exemptions in the 1940 Ordinance.

Export Duties

Export duties are collected on exports from the Colony of which the main are charcoal, cocoa, coconuts and copra, firewood, fruit, honey, lime products and sugar.

Export prices are for the purposes of the collection of duty fixed by an Export Prices Committee under the chairmanship of the Collector of Customs. For all items except firewood and charcoal the duty is on a sliding scale. A cess is levied on bananas.

Excise Duties

Excise duty on spirits made in the Colony (rum) was charged at \$2.84 per proof gallon.

The excise duty on sugar is of far less value and in 1951 and 1952 was levied at the rate of \$9.98 per ton on clear sugar manufactured and consumed in the Colony. (The duty was raised to \$15.03 per ton by Ordinance No. 1 of 1953).

The Governor in Council is empowered to remit the whole or any part of the duty payable if he is satisfied that it would be just and equitable to do so.

Income Tax

Income tax rates vary on a sliding scale from 12 cents on every \$4.80 of the first \$480 to \$3.12 on every \$4.80 above \$24,000. The tax upon the chargeable income of a company was charged at the rate of \$1.56 on every \$4.80 until 31st December, 1952, when it was raised to \$1.60. The rates are contained in Section 23 of the Income Tax Ordinance 1947, No. 8 of 1948, which came into operation on 1st January, 1948, and amending Ordinances No. 24 of 1949 and No. 18 of 1953.

TABULAR STATEMENT OF INCIDENCE OF TAX

<i>Income Group</i>	1951		1952	
	<i>No. of Assessments</i>	<i>Tax Payable</i>	<i>No. of Assessments</i>	<i>Tax Payable</i>
		\$		\$
480.80— 960.00	602	1,363.00	664	1,942.00
964.80— 1,440.00	203	1,838.00	352	3,731.00
1,444.80— 1,920.00	130	3,306.00	169	4,077.00
1,924.80— 2,400.00	88	4,114.00	137	4,219.00
2,404.80— 2,880.00	60	4,159.00	74	5,909.00
2,884.80— 3,360.00	34	4,123.00	25	4,817.00
3,364.80— 3,840.00	26	5,201.00	32	5,284.00
3,844.80— 4,320.00	23	4,743.00	27	6,070.00
4,324.80— 4,800.00	15	3,373.00	17	3,935.00
4,804.80— 5,280.00	17	6,187.00	16	5,087.00
5,284.80— 6,720.00	25	11,261.00	22	11,245.00
6,724.80— 9,600.00	27	20,176.00	32	24,137.00
9,604.80— 12,000.00	9	11,309.00	12	14,656.00
12,004.80— 14,400.00	4	10,575.00	7	14,005.00
Over \$— 14,400.00	7	24,495.00	7	26,503.00
	1,270	116,223.00	1,593	133,617.00
Companies	53	205,430.00	62	281,472.00
	1,323	\$321,653.00	1,655	\$415,089.00

Estate Duty

Where death occurs within the Colony the person accountable for succession duty is required within three months after the death to deliver to the Treasurer a declaration of the value of the estate of the deceased; where death occurs outside the Colony, the period is six months. The Treasurer may under certain circumstances extend the period for a further three months or six months in the respective cases referred to and any further delays may be granted on application to the Judge.

Succession duty is collected on all estates in excess of \$480, but only half rate is payable in respect of successions passing to the wife, the mother or the lawful son or daughter of the deceased or the illegitimate son or daughter of a deceased mother.

Land and Rural House Tax

A land tax of 24 cents per acre or part thereof was introduced in 1951, and is mainly responsible for the increase in the yield under this head from \$6,527 in 1950 to \$27,036 in 1952. Taxes on houses situated outside the limits of any town or village are assessed on the annual rental value and range from \$1.80 on a house the annual rental value of which is over \$25.00 and does not exceed \$35.00, to \$6.72 on a house of a rental value of over \$80.00 and not exceeding \$100.00, and 7 per cent on a house the rental value of which exceeds \$100.00.

The assessment of the rural house tax is made by the Tax Officer and payment can be enforced in a summary manner before the inferior Courts.

Stamp Duties

Stamp duties are collected on most commercial instruments at a rate fixed under the Stamp Duty Ordinance.

Chapter 4: Currency and Banking

CURRENCY

The currency of the Colony is the West Indian dollar which is linked to sterling at the rate of \$4.80 to the £. Notes issued by the Eastern Caribbean Currency Board and British coinage are legal tender.

BANKING

There are three banks operating in the Colony: Barclays Bank (D.C. & O.), the St. Lucia Co-operative Bank Ltd., and the Government Savings Bank of which branches exist at Soufriere, Vieux Fort, Dennery, Gros Islet, Anse-la-Raye, and Micoud.

St. Lucia Co-operative Bank

The St. Lucia Co-operative Bank Ltd, was established in 1937 with an authorised capital of \$150,000. The bank declared a dividend of 10 per cent in 1952. Statistics of deposits and loans were as follows :

SAVINGS BANK

Year	No. of Depositors	Deposits	Withdrawals	Balance
1947-48 . . .	1,021	\$599,964 ·77	\$333,472 ·67	\$649,941 ·19
1948-49 . . .	1,211	739,575 ·83	589,232 ·57	800,284 ·45
1949-50 . . .	1,297	966,705 ·09	724,975 ·77	1,042,013 ·77
1950-51 . . .	1,319	1,003,843 ·72	917,576 ·74	1,128,280 ·75
1951-52 . . .	1,119	930,140 ·96	902,319 ·92	1,156,101 ·79

LOANS

Year*	Loans Issued	Loans Repaid	Loans Outstanding	Interest Received
1947-48 . . .	\$380,603 ·04	\$293,363 ·58	\$509,831 ·17	\$31,508 ·77
1948-49 . . .	279,662 ·27	216,383 ·17	573,110 ·27	34,139 ·17
1949-50 . . .	502,025 ·37	319,730 ·76	755,404 ·88	45,462 ·59
1950-51 . . .	607,538 ·89	400,612 ·03	962,331 ·74	51,971 ·01
1951-52 . . .	628,999 ·05	494,147 ·38	1,097,183 ·41	60,172 ·49

* The Bank's financial year ends on 30th September.

The revenue for the year ended 30th September, 1952, amounted to \$64,670 and the expenditure to \$32,401, leaving a gross profit of \$32,269.

Government Savings Bank

	1952
No. of Depositors	2,333
Amount Deposited	\$163,143 ·36

Exchange Rates

Commission rates charged by the Currency Authorities for the issue and redemption of notes were : one-half per cent plus the cost of any telegrams sent in connection with each transaction either by the Caribbean Currency Board or by the Crown Agents.

The following were the commercial banks' rates of exchange for telegraphic transfers :

Selling		Buying
\$4·83	per £1 sterling	\$4·77
\$173·2†	per U.S. \$100	\$171·2†
\$176·4†	per Canadian \$100	\$174·0†

† Rates fluctuated during the years, but these figures show the average position.

Chapter 5: Commerce

The value of total imports, total exports and re-exports (excluding bullion and specie) were as follows :

<i>Year</i>	<i>Total Imports</i> \$	<i>Total Exports</i> \$	<i>Re-exports</i> \$
1950 . .	4,746,784	2,095,606	186,178
1951 . .	6,067,777	2,407,033	167,068
1952 . .	5,800,000 (est.)	2,819,108	277,823

The principal imports and exports by quantity and value are shown in the following tables :

PRINCIPAL IMPORTS

	<i>Unit</i>	1950		1951		1952	
		<i>Quantities</i>	<i>Value</i> \$	<i>Quantities</i>	<i>Value</i> \$	<i>Quantities</i>	<i>Value</i> \$
Beer and Ale	gallons .	8,973	15,580	4,131	10,441	16,381	44,260
Boots and Shoes	doz. pairs .	5,533	123,635	7,424	210,856	5,233	165,029
Cement	barrels of 400 lb. .	20,835	150,881	32,122	327,164	16,697	156,971
Cotton Piece-Goods	sq. yards .	656,136	310,678	750,386	411,931	660,999	346,701
Art Silk Piece-Goods	sq. yards .	91,204	97,998	247,711	191,787	166,111	125,293
Flour	bags of 196 lb. .	29,912	472,003	30,444	518,261	41,463	708,532
Machinery—Agricultural	— .	—	5,465	—	2,730	—	2,328
Sugar	— .	—	119,009	—	76,997	—	120,094
Manures, chemical	tons .	3	464	1,689	132,423	529	55,110
Milk, condensed	lb. .	116,563	35,516	110,917	43,274	108,742	41,462
Motor Cars	no. .	66	108,363	81	160,159	49	98,465
Motor Trucks	no. .	15	31,208	16	35,835	11	26,636
Motor Tyres	— .	—	49,068	—	100,560	—	35,263
Motor Parts	— .	—	24,135	—	30,222	—	65,972
Paints and Colours	lb. .	108,173	35,846	259,509	80,636	133,987	52,271
Rice	lb. .	937,235	52,075	882,458	48,450	1,046,914	99,738
Sacks and Bags	dozen .	5,753	35,556	6,976	61,529	17,958	336,502
Soap, common	lb. .	160,197	27,128	279,113	53,574	239,859	54,324
Spirits—Whisky	gallons .	1,097	9,018	1,409	13,751	1,506	15,821
Brandy	gallons .	431	3,592	425	3,402	356	3,229
Gin	gallons .	358	2,390	342	2,389	406	3,064
Tea	lb. .	9,601	9,733	10,933	12,115	8,283	7,591

PRINCIPAL EXPORTS

	Unit	1950		1951		1952	
		Quantities	Value	Quantities	Value	Quantities	Value
			\$		\$		\$
Bananas . . .	bunches	2,258	4,264	20,862	26,263	56,002	57,185
Cocoa . . .	cwt.	5,163	254,331	5,595	327,548	8,151	391,884
Coconuts . . .	no.	148,975	3,592	132,900	3,572	80,950*	3,573
Coconut Oil . . .	gallons	47,563	91,578	60,223	135,050	67,655	162,503
Copra . . .	lb.	2,424,240	244,664	3,592,755	409,496	3,581,775	464,953
Cotton, Sea Island . . .	lb.	55,552	25,998	1,200	1,250	11,828	11,828
Ginger . . .	lb.	1,066	189	1,729	135	552	205
Grapefruit . . .	crates	81	183	65	92	84	68
Honey . . .	lb.	77,323	7,199	41,702	4,994	97,241	14,482
Lime Juice (raw) . . .	gallons	9,951	6,672	9,048	7,390	29,636	18,418
Lime Oil . . .	lb.	1,454	7,047	2,121	23,242	610	9,540
Limes (green) . . .	barrels	120	1,129	64	565	52	350
Mace . . .	lb.	3,393	8,476	1,356	1,995	2,008	2,074
Molasses . . .	gallons	160,625	15,548	218,891	46,460	81,167	24,153
Nutmegs . . .	lb.	22,310	13,560	12,076	6,520	20,530	10,374
Oranges . . .	crates	92	439	32	64	99	130
Sugar . . .	tons	8,629	1,137,119	8,017	1,137,380	7,538	1,257,032
Vanilla . . .	lb.	156	451	—	—	—	—
Wood and Timber (unmanufactured)		—	5,658	—	5,436	—	8,030

* Culls.

DIRECTION OF TRADE

Total Imports

Sources	1950	1951	1952 (Estimated)
	\$	\$	\$
United Kingdom . . .	2,553,505	2,911,961	2,900,000
Canada . . .	833,181	1,106,440	1,000,000
Other Commonwealth Countries . . .	784,008	1,118,556	1,000,000
United States of America . . .	347,474	461,064	450,000
Other Foreign Countries . . .	228,616	469,756	450,000
TOTAL	\$4,746,784	\$6,067,777	\$5,800,000

Exports (excluding Ships' Stores)

Destinations	1950	1951	1952
	\$	\$	\$
United Kingdom . . .	1,280,076	1,347,809	1,718,774
Canada . . .	17,206	55,410	30,409
Other Commonwealth Countries . . .	575,696	787,233	813,499
United States of America . . .	204,257	188,052	238,937
Other Foreign Countries . . .	11,600	20,914	17,489
TOTAL	\$2,088,835	\$2,399,418	\$2,819,108

Price control was continued on imported groceries, textiles, hardware, drugs, etc. All locally produced commodities, except beef, fish, sugar and the products of the bay rum industry, were decontrolled. Bulk purchase by the Government of rice, flour and coconut meal was continued.

Chapter 6: Production*

LAND UTILISATION AND TENURE

Classification

**Estimate
1952**

	<i>Acres</i>
1. Total area including inland water bodies	152,320
2. " " excluding " " " " " "	150,350
3. Built on areas including roads and railways	1,040
4. Permanent wasteland	18,000
5. Unused but potentially productive area	19,705
6. Agricultural Area	55,935
(a) Arable land and orchards	47,155
(i) Land in crops	20,210
(ii) Orchards (area under fruit and nut trees, vines and fruit-bearing shrubs)	1,330
(iii) Market and kitchen gardens	11,850
(iv) Temporary meadows and pastures	2,120
(v) Temporary fallow	11,645
(b) Permanent meadows and pastures	8,780
7. Wood and Forest Lands	55,450
8. Other lands, i.e. Military Reserve	200

Land and Water Conservation

Soil conservation is practised on a small scale throughout the island but there are no laws or regulations enforcing such practices. Most of the major forest areas are owned by the Crown and are protected as water reserves by the Forest, Soil and Water Conservation Ordinance No. 6 of 1945 and No. 18 of 1951. The Forestry Department regulates deforestation and afforestation throughout the island. Squatting on Crown lands and destruction of forest trees are prohibited.

Land Ownership

Land in St. Lucia is divided into Crown and private lands.

Crown lands comprise forest reserves and other land. The sale of Crown lands was discontinued from 1st January, 1942, and a leasehold system instituted under Ordinance No. 7 of 1945. It is not the policy, however, to lease or rent land in the Central Forest Reserve.

*For further information, particularly on agriculture, see *The Agricultural Development of St. Lucia*. Report of a Team of Experts on Visit in March and April, 1951.

Approximately 127,000 acres are in private and approximately 25,000 acres in Government ownership.

Private freehold land is either cultivated by the owner or managed on his behalf or leased or rented (some of the estates and holdings belong to absentee landlords). The average period of a lease is five to ten years.

Cash rental and share cropping are common. Cash rental may be annual or bi-annual and ranges from \$2.40—\$10.00 per acre per annum. On the share cropping system the owners of the land generally demand one-third of the proceeds, the tenant bearing all the expenses for clearing and cultivation. Some times, however, the owner supplies part of the planting material. In very rare cases the tenant receives all the proceeds from the land on the agreement that he plants, on the land rented, such permanent crops as coconuts, cocoa and coffee.

Land Settlement

A successful method of land settlement has not yet been devised. On pages 26 and 27 of their report the Team of Experts have recommended two methods of land settlement for St. Lucia and these are under consideration.

AGRICULTURE

*Sugar**

The acreage devoted to sugarcane cultivation during 1951 and 1952 was approximately 2,940 and 3,400 acres respectively, of which approximately 2,790 and 3,300 acres were harvested.

The total quantity of sugarcane harvested was assessed at 100,084 and 95,817 tons. Sugar produced was 9,826 and 9,400 tons; rum 99,950 and 107,250 gallons and molasses 403,961 and 467,500 gallons. The crop year runs from June to May and harvesting takes place between February and May each year.

Approximately 80 per cent of the sugarcane is grown on three large estates comprising 2,330 acres and the other 20 per cent by peasant farmers. The three estates—Roseau, Cul de Sac and La Caye—are owned by companies and the first two are under the same management. The acreage yield of estate cane during the period under review was 34.62 and 33.2 tons respectively.

All the sugarcane produced is milled and the sugar manufactured at the factories situated on the three estates.

The sugar is marketed by the St. Lucia Sugar Manufacturers Association, which consists of representatives of the companies, and is sold directly to the Ministry of Food. The c.i.f. price to the United Kingdom during 1952 was \$184.80 per ton.

Coconuts

The acreage under coconuts in 1951 and 1952 was estimated at 13,600 and 13,700 acres respectively. Copra exported amounted to

*For greater detail on the sugar industry, see *Report of the Commission appointed by H. E. the Governor to enquire into the stoppage of work at the sugar factories in St. Lucia in March, 1952* . . . Castries, 1952.

1,604 and 1,599 tons and that processed locally was estimated at 1,360 and 1,410 tons. The production of crude and refined oil in 1952 was estimated at 68,150 gallons, of which 67,655 gallons were exported.

The average yield is approximately $\frac{1}{4}$ ton of copra per acre per annum and between 4,500 and 6,300 nuts are required to produce a ton of copra.

Coconuts are produced throughout the island, mainly on privately owned estates. Copra drying is done mainly in kilns on the various estates.

Of the copra produced less than half is processed locally. There are three factories for extracting oil. One is at Soufriere and is owned by the St. Lucia Coconut Growers' Association ; it is capable of processing about 10 tons of copra per hour. The other two are on Choc and Ferrands estates and are privately owned ; they are capable of processing 10 tons and 2 tons per hour respectively.

The marketing of copra and oil is done mainly by the St. Lucia Coconut Growers Association. Prices are arrived at by regional agreement and the products are exported to other British Caribbean Colonies. The price of copra during 1952 was \$230.40 per ton and of oil \$2.65 per Imperial gallon.

Bananas

The area under bananas was estimated at 2,000 acres in 1951 and 2,800 acres in 1952. Exports were 20,862 stems in 1951 and 56,002 stems in 1952, the greater part of which went to the United Kingdom and the balance to Barbados.

The average yield per acre when planted in pure stand is about 600 exportable stems. Invariably however the crop is interplanted with others.

During 1951 and 1952 there were only a few estates producing bananas. Many peasants also cultivated bananas and, generally speaking, almost every holding had some bananas planted, but the bulk of the exported fruit came from the estates.

The bananas exported to the United Kingdom were marketed through the Banana Association.

Colonial Development and Welfare funds are available for rehabilitating the banana industry. A programme for extending the area under cultivation and for controlling banana leaf spot disease has been worked out and is now being implemented.

Cocoa

In the 1951 and 1952 crop years, there were approximately 2,400 and 2,500 acres respectively under cocoa. Exports were 280 tons of dried cacao beans in 1951 and 407 tons in 1952, and it is estimated that approximately 30 tons were consumed locally each year.

The yield was about 275-300 lb. of dried beans per acre per annum. The crop year runs from September to August. The greater portion of the crop is produced on estates. The Agriculturist Association make

marketing arrangements and the cacao is marketed in the United Kingdom and the United States of America.

Ground Provisions

It is estimated that nearly 7,000 acres are devoted to the growth of ground provisions. Of this about 2,800 acres are generally under sweet potatoes, 2,600 acres under tannias and dasheen, 1,400 acres under cassava and about 100 acres under yams.

Sweet potatoes are sometimes grown as a pure stand, though often they are grown as a joint crop with peasant sugarcane. The others are invariably grown in mixed cultivation on small holdings mainly by peasants. The bulk of the crops is consumed locally, and the surplus shipped to neighbouring colonies.

Crops of minor importance are coffee, cotton, rice, maize, citrus, avocado pears and mangoes. There are also many breadfruit trees scattered throughout the Colony ; they are never grown in groups, so that it is difficult to estimate the area devoted to this crop, but it might be assessed at about 2,000 acres. The entire crop is consumed locally and contributes greatly to the food supplies of the Colony.

Agricultural Department

The Agricultural Department is sub-divided into three main divisions viz : District and Extension, Animal Husbandry and Forestry. The staff comprises :

- 1 Agricultural Superintendent
 - 1 Agricultural Officer (Head of District and Extension Sub-division)
 - 1 Veterinary Officer
 - 3 Agricultural Assistants
 - 2 Senior Agricultural Instructor
 - 1 Junior Agricultural Instructor (Assisting in Districts)
 - 1 Senior Agricultural Instructor (Cacao Propagation)
 - 1 Foreman, Union Agricultural Station
 - 1 Produce and Loans Inspector
- Forestry Staff are listed on page 34.

(One officer stationed in each of the 5 Agricultural Districts into which the island is divided)

The policy of the Department is :

- (a) to investigate and publicise better methods of land use, crop cultivation and livestock rearing ;
- (b) to propagate and distribute improved varieties and strains of crops and livestock ;
- (c) to evolve measures for the prevention, control and/or eradication of pests and diseases of crops and livestock ;
- (d) to regularise, maintain and improve forests and forest reserves and foster the controlled economic exploitation of timber.

Efforts to Improve Agriculture

Banana Rehabilitation. Planting material is supplied to farmers in order to expand the area under bananas. Spraying equipment and materials are also made available for controlling leaf spot disease.

Cacao. The Propagating Centre reproduces and distributes free of charge high-yielding cacao clones to farmers.

Loans. Small loans are granted to farmers to assist them in cultivating their holdings.

Other Assistance

General advice on crops and stock is given to farmers on request. Veterinary advice and assistance are available in outlying districts.

Tractors and heavy equipment are rented to farmers at reasonable charges.

ANIMAL HUSBANDRY

Livestock

Figures for livestock and livestock products are for 1952 only, as there is no data available for 1951.

The Colony has an estimated total of 60,145 head of livestock comprising :

Cattle	6,000
Sheep	7,000
Goats	6,500
Swine	9,000
Mules	320
Horses	515
Poultry	30,000
Donkeys	810
	60,145

With the exception of mules and horses, which are found mainly on sugar and copra-producing estates, the animal population is fairly evenly distributed throughout the island.

Most of the stock is owned by peasants and is of poor quality. The majority are unimproved descendants of the first breeds taken into the Colony. The animals belonging to the large estate owners represent most of the improved stock in the Colony.

Production and Processing

Livestock products amounted to the following in 1952 :

Hides and Skins	2,256
Butter	6,000 lb.
Milk	542,740 gallons
Meat	1,249,200 lb.

The local market absorbs most of these products. A few pigs are exported to Trinidad.

A small amount of butter is made, and one estate owner has a small output of hams and bacon. At least two other estate owners are

considering the processing of hams, bacon and sausages for local consumption as well as for export. The output of butter, ham and bacon was as follows in 1952 :

	<i>Butter</i> <i>lb.</i>	<i>Ham</i> <i>lb.</i>	<i>Bacon</i> <i>lb.</i>
Marquis Estate . . .	4,700	2,000	1,500
Palmiste „ . . .	1,200	—	—
Mamiku „ . . .	100	—	—

Marketing and Prices

All animals are sold directly to butchers by the individual owners. Butter, ham, bacon and milk are sold principally by the producer to the customer. Very little passes through the hands of middlemen.

Producers received the following prices in 1952 :

Swine :	22 cents per lb on the hoof
Cattle :	14 cents per lb. on the hoof when bought from an estate
	14 cents to 16 cents per lb. on the hoof when bought from a peasant.
Butter :	96 cents per lb.
Bacon :	\$1.33 per lb.

Events affecting Production

Both the swine and dairy industry rely on coconut meal as a feeding supplement. During 1952 there was an acute shortage, and the swine industry was particularly hard hit. Most producers were forced to cut down on numbers.

As a result of the outbreak of foot and mouth disease in Martinique in October, 1952, Trinidad placed an embargo on the importation of pigs from St. Lucia and other islands ; consequently many farmers cut down the number of their pigs still further by selling a portion of their breeding stock for slaughter.

Veterinary Department

The only veterinarian in the island is attached to the Department of Agriculture. His duties comprise disease prevention, control and eradication, and giving professional advice and services to the Government and public.

Efforts to improve Production

The Government as well as some progressive owners import improved breeding stock into the island. The Government animals are stationed in the different districts of the Colony, so that the majority of livestock owners can make use of them.

Information on methods of pest control is given to livestock owners from time to time. Ticks and liver flukes in cattle present a serious problem.

In some areas the Government provides grazing facilities for peasant owners for a nominal fee of 72 cents per animal per month. This has

Important Events

As a result of the reconstruction of Castries large quantities of timber were used; the bulk was imported from British Honduras, British Guiana, Canada and the United States, but a fair proportion was also produced locally.

Certain areas of unscheated lands were declared protected forest in 1951. A cadastral survey of these areas was undertaken and completed in 1952 and arrangements are now under way to have them escheated to the Crown. This gives the Forestry Service more protective control over these areas.

The total area under forest is about 85 square miles, about 24 of which is Crown land.

There are no saw-mills. There are however some small hand saws and lathes, which are used chiefly for furniture making ; the lumber used for this purpose is for the greater part imported. The hand-sawn local lumber is usually purchased by timber dealers who in turn sell to builders. Prices paid are as follows :

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LIST OF THE MAIN EXPLOITED TIMBERS

<i>Creole Name</i>	<i>Botanical Name</i>	<i>Cu. ft. 1952</i>
Angelin	Andira inermis (Wright) H.B.K.	1,017
Balata	Mainilkara bidentata (A.DC) Chev	4,521
Bois Blanc	Simarouba amara Aubl	13,864
Bois d'Amande	Hieronyma caribaea Urb.	1,184
Bois Pain Marron	Talauma dodecapetala (Lam) Urb.	6,682
<i>Creole Name</i>	<i>Botanical Name</i>	<i>Cu. ft.</i>
Bois tan rouge	Byrsonima martinicensis Mr & Urb.	6,202
Dalmare	Pithecellobium jupuniba (Willd)	976
Gommier	Dacryodes excelsa Vahl	3,386
La Glu	Sapium caribaea	429
Laurier canelle	Phoebe elongata L (Vahl) Nees.	7,612
Laurier mabre	Ocotea leucoxylon (Sw.) Mez	5,916
Mahot cochon	Sterculia caribaea R. Br.	500
Merise	Ternstroemia oligostemon Kr. & Urb	7,377
Porier	Tabebuia pallida Miers	3,888
Red Cedar	Cedrella maxicana	1,023

Timber cut and extracted from Crown lands amounted to 30,523 cu. ft. in 1951 and 30,907 cu. ft. in 1952. Timber cut and extracted from private lands was 18,108 cu. ft. and 42,290 cu. ft. respectively.

Large quantities of vines for basketmaking were collected as well as a small quantity of mahoe for rope-making and gums for fire lighting and incense. More than 500,000 shingles were extracted in 1952.

It is the policy of the Government :

to effect as soon as possible the permanent reservation as forest of all remaining Crown and vacant land in the centre of the island, except such portions as may be found on examination to be suitable for agriculture, and of such areas of private lands as are unsuited to agricultural cultivation ;

to manage the forest lands of the Colony in such a manner that, while still fulfilling their protective functions in the interests of soil and water conservation, they may at the same time provide the maximum outturn of forest produce on the basis of a sustained yield ; and to effect improvements in the growing stock in order to increase its productivity ;

to effect the fullest possible utilisation of the product of the forests subject to the requirements of forest management and to encourage the most economic utilisation of lumber ;

to carry out such experimental work as may be necessary to implement the forest policy ;

to educate and train the subordinate forest staff and to educate all classes of the community to an understanding of the benefits and value to the community of forests managed on a sound basis ;

to encourage and assist in every possible way the owners of private forests, woodlands and plantations, so that these may be managed in the most economical manner and to prevent wastage and destruction of forest resources on private land ;

to co-operate with all other land interests in the achievement of optimum land allocation and usage, and in all projects for soil and water conservation and the prevention of erosion.

Forestry Department

The Forest Service is a branch of the Agricultural Department and the Agricultural Superintendent is the Chief Forest Officer. Other forestry staff includes :

- 1 Forest Supervisor
- 1 Senior Forest Ranger
- 2 Forest Rangers
- 5 Forest Guards
- 3 Forest Watchers

FISHERIES

Fishing in St. Lucia is still primitive. With the available small canoes, activities are restricted to the coastal banks mainly along the western coastline, ranging from north to south. The use of pots, nets and hooks are the chief fishing methods.

There are no available statistics on numbers of fishermen, boats, gears or quantities and values of catches.

The St. Theresa Co-operative Society at Vieux Fort assists in the export of lobsters to Trinidad. These, apart from Tilapia Mosambica fingerlings, are the only marine product exported. The trade has suffered a severe set-back with the cessation of P.A.A. flights to St. Lucia.

During 1951 and 1952 the Agricultural Department loaned \$6,236.40 to some 151 fishermen to assist in repairing and replacing canoes and fishing tackle.

With the termination of C.D. & W. Scheme D. 607 at the end of 1951 the Fisheries Branch of the Agricultural Department ceased to operate.

CO-OPERATION

The co-operative movement received an impetus in 1951 from the electoral campaign when candidates for the new Legislative Council canvassed the advantages of co-operation and promised to sponsor various types of societies.

A great deal of promotional activity took place at Vieux Fort where co-operation is strongly established ; and a fishermen's co-operative

was formed. Steady progress was maintained in all the credit unions and in a copra processing society, but difficulties were experienced in other types of associations, namely consumers, beekeepers, and all-island livestock society and a transport society. One consumer society, not yet registered, was closed. The transport society, which had been formed among residents of an emergency housing estate after the 1948 fire, was dissolved when these fire-victims were housed in permanent homes, and the need for transport was no longer acute.

The Team of Experts who reported on agricultural development in St. Lucia recommended the formation of producers' associations in the sugar, banana, livestock and fishing industries and the establishment of a marketing department. They proposed loans of \$24,400 each to the sugarcane and dairy co-operatives, a loan of \$33,600 to the fishermen's co-operative, a further loan of \$48,000, bearing interest repayable in 10 years, to the all-island livestock association and free grants totalling \$31,200 for breeding and pasturage improvement. An encouraging development was the arrangement between the fishermen's co-operative and the Trinidad Marketing Board to distribute lobsters shipped by air from St. Lucia.

In 1951 Government made a loan of \$1,000 to the Vieux Fort fishermen's co-operative for the purchase of an experimental fishing boat. The boat (a whaler) proved unsatisfactory ; it was sold and the loan was repaid to Government without financial loss to the society.

The Co-operative Societies Ordinance No. 17 of 1946, provides the legal framework for the supervision and promotion of societies.

At the end of 1952 there were the following societies in existence :

	1950	1952
Consumers' Society . . .	2	1 (registered)
Credit Unions . . .	4	3 (2 registered)
Beekeepers' Society . . .	1	1 (registered)
Livestock Society . . .	1	1 (registered)
Cane Farmers . . .	1	nil
Transport Society . . .	1	nil
Copra Processing Society . . .	1	1
Fishermen's Society . . .	1	1
Banana Producers' Society . . .	nil	1
Dairy Co-operative Society . . .	nil	1
Total Membership . . .	690	600
Share capital . . .	\$15,400	\$16,300
Annual Turnover . . .	\$49,000	\$61,000

Chapter 7: Social Services

EDUCATION

Primary

In 1952 there were 48 primary schools receiving grants-in-aid from the Government and one Government primary school. Of the 48 aided schools, three were Anglican, three Methodist and 42 Roman Catholic. There were 13,736 children on the roll with an average attendance of 9,078. In addition there were 21 private schools with an enrolment of 1,200. There were 473 teachers in the aided schools, 445 of whom had not completed their secondary schooling and were untrained, and there were 36 teachers in the private schools.

During 1951 and 1952 a team of supervising teachers, under the guidance of the Education Department, were responsible for the training of pupil teachers and probationary assistants. In December, 1952, the supervising teachers gave lectures to a group of certificated assistants preparing for the Associate of the College of Preceptors Examination. The supervising teachers were paid from Colonial Development and Welfare funds until the end of 1951 and from St. Lucia Government funds thereafter.

The usual vacation course for head and certified teachers was held during August, 1951 and 1952. The Intending Teacher Scheme, which provided a three-year course at the secondary schools for a selected number of pupils, terminated at the end of 1952. No teachers were sent abroad for training during the period under review.

The new Methodist Primary School, built at a cost of \$36,000 from Colonial Development and Welfare funds, was completed in 1951. It is designed for 250 children and is equipped with rooms for domestic science and handicrafts. The building was first occupied in the second term of 1952.

In 1952 another school was opened at Joyeux in the south of the Island. It was formerly a private school but was handed over to the Government and is now run by the Roman Catholic Manager at Vieux Fort.

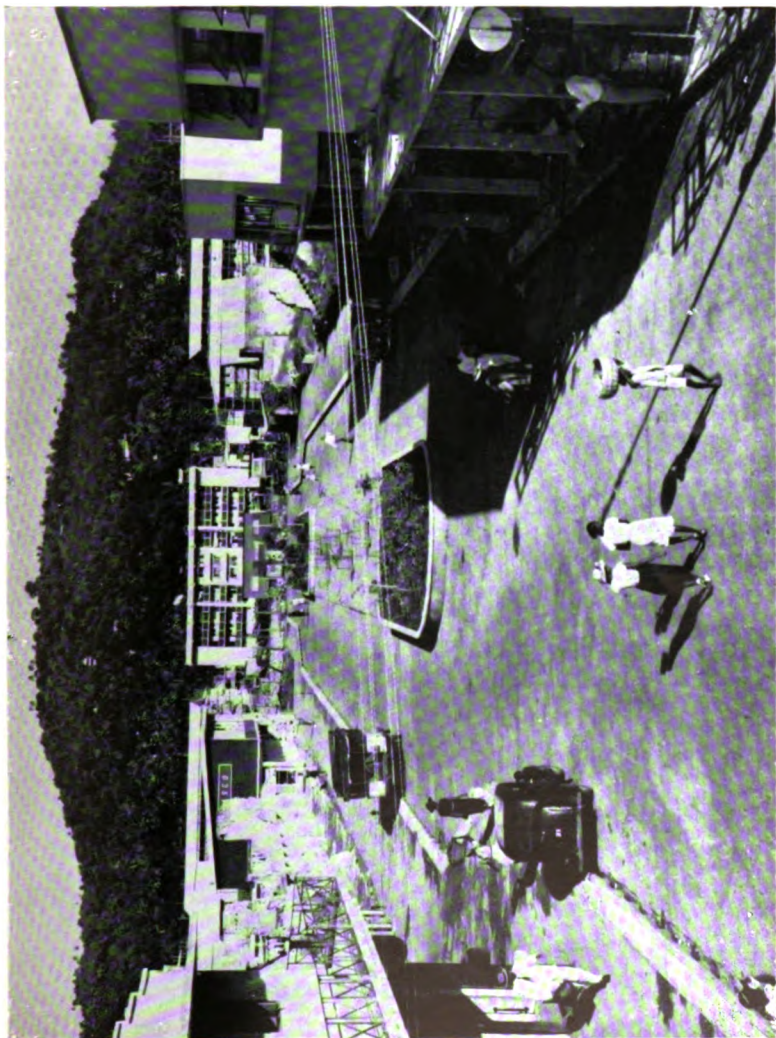
In 1951 \$202,683 was spent from Colony funds on primary education and it is estimated that \$212,912 was spent in 1952, excluding the expenses of the Education Department.

Secondary

St. Mary's College, a Roman Catholic boys' secondary school, with a roll of 275, receives an annual grant-in-aid of \$12,400. St. Joseph's Convent, a Roman Catholic girls' secondary school, with a roll of 308, receives an annual grant-in-aid of \$6,060.

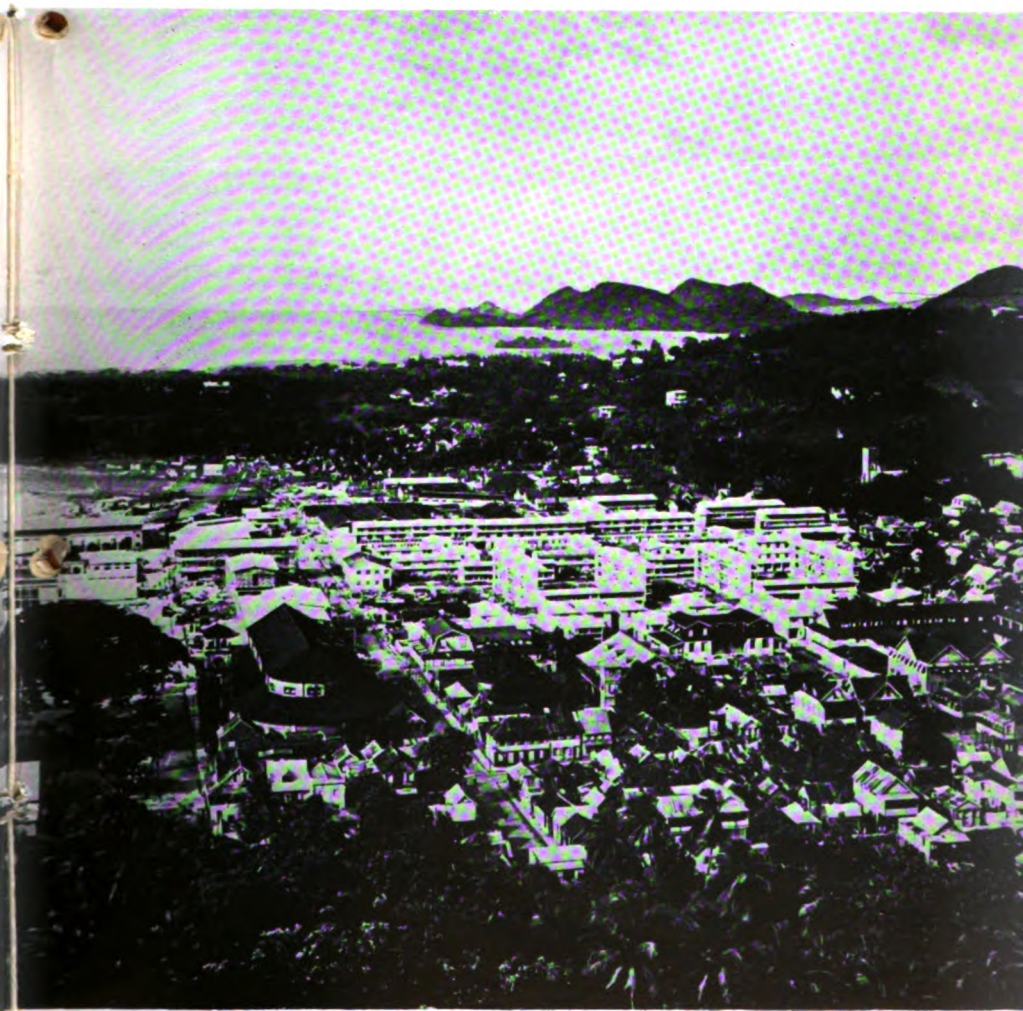
The headmaster and three members of the senior staff of the College are Brothers of the Presentation Order, Cork, Eire. They are all

STREET IN CASTRIES





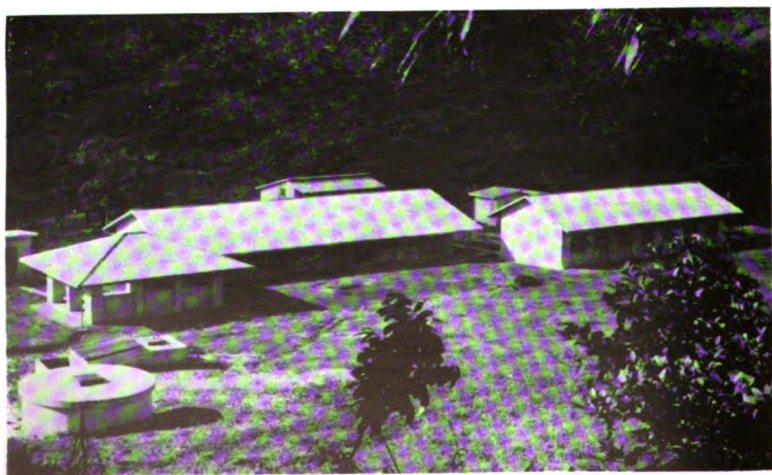
CASTRIES



REBUILT



CASTRIES' NEW POLICE STATION AND FIRE STATION



MONCHY SCHOOL

university graduates and they also hold diplomas in education. The junior staff consists of non-graduate laymen, but they are encouraged to read for the external degrees of the University of London.

Science is being taught and is regularly taken as a subject in the Cambridge examinations.

The College authorities secured one of the military barracks at Vigie which were altered and repaired and the school moved into its new quarters in September, 1952. There is now adequate space for classrooms and playing fields.

St. Joseph's Convent is conducted by the Sisters of St. Joseph of Cluny. The Reverend Mother Superior has had many years experience at the Roman Catholic Training College for teachers in Trinidad, and the headmistress is a university graduate.

According to the terms of the grant-in-aid, the College and the Convent are required to have the following free places : Government scholars, 36 ; Castries Town Board scholars, 18 ; Vestry scholars, 2 ; Cure scholars, 2.

Visual Education

In 1951 and 1952, a film projector belonging to the Public Relations Department was used to give shows in schools, clubs and adult groups. Educational films used were supplied by the Central Office of Information and the British Council and agricultural films were borrowed from the Caribbean Commission.

The film-strip projectors continue to be frequently used by the two secondary schools.

Library Services

The St. Lucia Central Library Service, which now has branches or deposit stations in all the towns and villages, is very popular, and over 40,000 books were circulated in 1952.

Adult Education

During 1951 and 1952 the Extra-Mural Department of the University College of the West Indies was mainly responsible for the organisation of adult classes in Castries, Soufriere, Gros Islet and Micoud, and included art, current and West Indian affairs, drawing, economics, English, French, music and educational psychology.

Several teachers held night classes in an efforts to reduce the high incidence of illiteracy.

PUBLIC HEALTH

Vital Statistics

	1950	1951	1952
Population	80,195	81,761	82,958
Birth rate per 1,000 population	35.5	35.7	35.4
Death rate per 1,000 population	14.89	16.99	15.02
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births	115.2	134.2	118.0

Major Diseases

The two most common causes of morbidity are malaria and helminthic diseases. Malnutrition is common in infancy. Venereal diseases and particularly gonorrhoea, are the rule rather than the exception. Streptococcal infections are rare, and conditions such as kala-azar and trypanosomiasis are unknown. Measles, chicken-pox, whooping-cough and mumps occur in epidemic form from time to time. No case of yellow fever has occurred during this century. Enteric fever is endemic, but only rarely does it reach epidemic proportions. Tuberculosis is common and there are indications that it is increasing ; most infections are due to the human bacillus, but bovine tuberculosis infection of glands, joints and the alimentary canal are seen. Tuberculous meningitis is extremely rare.

Treatment of malaria is provided at the health centres and hospitals, and many cases are treated at home. Drugs in common use are chloroquin, camoquin, mepacrine and quinine. Proguanil has been found disappointing against the local strains of parasite. Daraprim has been introduced recently but it is yet too early to evaluate its effectiveness.

Malaria prevention is largely confined to D.D.T. residual spraying and anti-malarial drainage works, the latter being undertaken by the Public Health Engineering Unit. Estate workers are encouraged to take prophylactic quinine.

Preventive measures against helminthic diseases consist in education in hygiene and the provision of proper sanitary accommodation, particularly in the rural areas where bored hole latrines are erected either free or for a very small charge. Parts of Castries are now provided with a modern water-borne sewerage system and the use of septic tanks is becoming increasingly popular.

Enteric fever is usually treated in hospital, and the use of chloromphenicol has very appreciably reduced the mortality rate of this disease. Control is effected by propaganda, the frequent testing of water supplies and the inoculation of all contacts of established cases.

No facilities for the treatment of pulmonary tuberculosis exist, nor is there any provision for the segregation of infectious cases. Treatment is therefore entirely domiciliary and the disease carries a mortality of nearly 100 per cent.

Facilities

The Medical Services are administered by a Senior Medical Officer, who is also the Medical Officer of Health. The island is divided into six medical districts each with a Resident Medical Officer.

There is one large hospital of 115 beds under the charge of a surgeon and with one Resident Medical Officer. This hospital deals with all the

major and most of the minor surgery of the island and also with all the most serious obstetrical and medical cases. Three of the out-districts are provided with small hospitals—Soufriere 20 beds, Vieux-Fort 22 beds and Dennery 12 beds.

Health Centres are provided in the 15 most populous areas. Two of these are attached to two of the small hospitals and have one resident nurse each ; the other centres have one district nurse each. Out-patient treatment is provided daily at the four larger centres and weekly at the smaller stations. Provision is also made for ante-natal, child welfare, venereal disease and dental clinics.

A dental service is provided by one dental surgeon. Clinics are held three times a week in Castries and monthly or quarterly at the out-stations.

Sanitation Department

The department is under a Senior Sanitary Inspector with a staff of nine Sanitary Inspectors, five of whom possess the R.S.I. certificate. Its function is to ensure compliance with the Public Health Regulations, among which may be mentioned proper refuse disposal, mosquito control, protection of foodstuffs and supervision of hairdressers, bakeries, abattoirs, etc.

Public Health Engineering Unit

The unit is financed by Colonial Development and Welfare funds amounting to approximately \$23,500 per annum. The main emphasis is on anti-malarial works, particularly drainage and mosquito control, and on sanitary engineering. The unit consists of an Engineering Assistant, a Field Technician, a Malaria Sanitary Inspector and several workmen.

Health Visitors Service

The service—under the charge of a Lady Health Visitor and two Public Health Nurses—is confined very largely to Castries, where regular venereal disease, ante-natal and child welfare clinics are held, and where a small day nursery takes in about twenty children. The Lady Health Visitor is also responsible for supervising similiar clinics in the out-districts.

Medical and Public Health Staff

With the exception of one Sanitary Inspector, trained in meat and food inspection, employed by the Castries Town Board, the whole of the Medical and Public Health Services are provided by Government

either from local or C.D. & W. funds. The following are the numbers of trained personnel employed by Government :

- 1 Senior Medical Officer.
- 2 Surgeons.
- 1 Resident Medical Officer.
- 6 District Medical Officers.
- 1 Senior Sanitary Inspector.
- 9 Sanitary Inspectors.
- 1 Engineering Assistant.
- 1 Field Technician.
- 1 Malaria Sanitary Inspector.
- 1 Matron.
- 1 Assistant Matron.
- 55 Nurses.
- 1 Lady Health Visitor.
- 2 Public Health Nurses.
- 1 Dental Surgeon.

There are one dentist and six nurses in private practice.

HOUSING AND TOWN PLANNING

Schemes

During 1951 and 1952 the following schemes were in hand :

Vide Bouteille Housing Scheme "A". The revised estimate was \$135,848, of which \$99,066 had been spent to 31st December, 1952. Work remaining to be done included laying down a pipe-borne water supply ; construction of a main road, footpaths and drains ; canalising the southern section of a stream ; and plotting the last section of the building lots.

This scheme is financed from local funds. Delay in completion has adversely affected the sale of building lots. Ninety seven tenants were in occupation at the end of the year.

Canaries Housing Scheme. \$2,584 was spent during 1951-52 on the purchase and development of approximately half an acre of land. Lots were offered for sale to tenants on the instalment basis. Expenditure was met from Colonial Development and Welfare funds.

Castries Housing Scheme. With effect from 1st April, 1952, buildings newly constructed in Castries by Government for residential purposes, were handed over to the Central Housing Authority. Two hundred and fifteen apartments were in occupation at the end of 1952.

Reconstruction of Castries

The work of reconstruction continued during the years 1951 and 1952. The Colonial Development Corporation acted as agents for the St. Lucia Government in the supervision of the work, which was carried out by the United Kingdom firm of Messrs. Holland, Hannen and Cubitts Ltd.

All construction was scheduled for completion by the end of 1952. The financial position could not be accurately ascertained until the Colonial Development Corporation had submitted their final accounts, which was not expected to take place before the end of 1953. Certain works including a Town Hall, Post Office and Public Library, have had to be postponed.

Private Re-building and Loans. For the 97 private sites allocated for re-development in the area destroyed in the 1948 fire, 61 building applications were received, 55 were approved, and 45 buildings were completed. The reconstruction of the remainder was delayed until additional loan funds became available, as the first issue of £250,000 is fully committed. An Ordinance authorising a further loan of £150,000 was passed and it was hoped that funds would become available for distribution in the near future. The additional loan represented about one-half of the sum actually required for the complete re-development of the 1948 fire area. Furthermore, some £50,000 of this amount was tentatively ear-marked for the 1951 fire area.

Sewerage. The sewerage system should be completed by July, 1953. Unlike the water supply, which is administered by the Castries Town Board, the sewerage system is operated by the Colonial Development Corporation under the direction of the Commissioner for Reconstruction. The Town Board has agreed to assume this responsibility and the appropriate financial arrangements are under discussion with the Board. The necessary legislation has been drafted and is awaiting introduction into the Legislative Council. Current proposals for the extension of the system to serve private premises, not yet connected, and to provide for night soil disposal in areas not likely to be connected in the near future, have been defined and can be put into effect during the course of the next few years in the light of the Town Board's experience in administering the service.

As soon as the necessary legislation has been passed, the Financial Secretary will settle an appropriate form of accounts with the Town Board. These accounts should provide for the collection of rates, the maintenance and operation of the service, including private house connections, and the servicing of the loan charges payable by Government on the loan raised to finance its installation.

Expenditure. The reconstruction of Castries is so far estimated to have cost about £1,600,000 on public works and £250,000 by way of loans on private reconstruction ; as mentioned above a further loan of £150,000 for private reconstruction is expected.

Executive Architect, Windward Islands

The office of Executive Architect, which also serves the other three Windward Islands, continued to be located in St. Lucia. The Executive Architect assisted the Commissioner for Reconstruction in matters relating for the rebuilding of Castries.

Apart from the Castries rebuilding the office prepared plans for a

variety of building in the Colony and assisted in the supervision of works in progress. These included :

- 1951—Supplementary Town Planning Scheme for the area of Castries destroyed by fire in March. Work at Victoria Hospital, including new laboratory and new Matron's Quarters. School buildings at Monchy and Banonneau, both the Catholic secondary schools in Castries (St. Mary's College and St. Joseph's Convent) and the new Methodist School in Castries.
- 1952—Regional Town Planning Scheme for Castries and surroundings. Hospital at Dennery. Housing Scheme at Ciceron for Labour Welfare Committee.

The office of Executive Architect is financed from a Colonial Development and Welfare grant (Scheme D. 734). During 1951 and 1952 expenditure was £7,651 in salaries for an architect, senior and junior draughtsmen, and other staff and in travelling and office expenses.

SOCIAL WELFARE

Social welfare work is undertaken by both official and voluntary organisations. The Social Welfare Department, which was created in 1946 and was financed partly from Colonial Development and Welfare funds and partly from local funds, was taken over completely by the Colony in 1951. The Department was renamed the Public Relations and Social Welfare Department as it had been handling information work since 1948. The Public Relations and Social Welfare Officer advises the Government on all welfare matters. He also administers public assistance, probation and the development of community and group movements and acts as liaison officer between the Government and voluntary organisations.

Village and Rural Communities

The principal aim of the department is to develop village and rural communities and to foster a programme of self-improvement. The absence of community spirit in the rural areas is unfortunately due to an attitude which expects the initiative in all things to come from the Government. Self-help is therefore stressed and communities are encouraged to study their own problems and to develop mutual aid through organised action. In order to achieve this aim clubs are being organised, community centres are being built where handicrafts are taught and thrift societies are being formed. The greatest handicap is the shortage of leaders. The groups in the south-western area have shown marked improvement in handicrafts and arrangements are being made to market their products in the United States.

The Sugar Labour Welfare Funds are being used to build houses, community centres and to provide playgrounds on the three sugar estates for the workers. This project was started in 1952 and it is hoped that this will help to develop a community spirit on the sugar estates.

Youth Organisations

There are several boys' and girls' clubs and practically all the villages can boast of at least one good club. The majority of the clubs were organised by the Social Welfare Department and it has been the policy of the Department to help all youth clubs. All the clubs suffer from lack of leadership, but teachers in the rural areas have helped greatly by acting as leaders until they can be replaced by one of the club members.

The Roman Catholic Church authorities have been concentrating on youth work under the Catholic Youth Organisation Scheme and have a number of well-run youth clubs.

The Boy Scouts and Girl Guides have been very active and are still recruiting more members. These groups are by far the largest youth organisations in the Colony.

The Junior Red Cross Branch was launched in 1949 and has made great strides. The largest groups are to be found in the Castries and Choiseul areas. There have been numerous requests from the rural areas for the starting of new links.

Relief of the Destitute and Disabled

The Department supervises the management and administration of public assistance. Local Case Committees examine all applications for public assistance in their respective districts, after investigations have been made by the Public Assistance Officer, and make recommendations to the Public Assistance Board.

Public assistance is given in two forms—outdoor relief and maintenance in the Home for the Aged and Infirm (indoor relief). The administration of the Home for the Aged and Infirm was transferred from the Medical to the Social Welfare Department on the 1st January, 1952.

The number of persons who received outdoor relief and the amount of money spent in 1951 and 1952 were as follows :

<i>Year</i>	<i>No. of Persons</i>	<i>Amount</i>
1951	1,265	\$19,235
1952	1,132	\$18,710

The average monthly allowance per person is \$1, but families with many children receive up to \$5 a month.

An average of 140 inmates were maintained at the Home for the Aged and Infirm at a cost of \$19,306 in 1952.

There are no social security schemes but 69 friendly societies provide their members with sick, burial and death benefits.

Voluntary Organisations

The St. Vincent de Paul Society continued to expand its activities. A new charitable organisation called "The Ladies of Charity" was formed in 1951 and has been doing wonderful work among the poor who are not eligible for public assistance. Both these organisations are Roman Catholic.

The British Red Cross Society is always in the forefront in the time of any emergency and pays special attention to the patients of the Mental Hospital, Leprosarium and the Home for the Aged and Infirm.

Juvenile Delinquency

There has been an increase in the number of cases coming before the Juvenile Courts, which has necessitated more pre-trial enquiries and additional work for the small staff of the Social Welfare Department. The statistics of juveniles convicted by the Courts are given in Chapter 9.

In 1951 a Committee was appointed to consider the special problem of juvenile delinquency in the Colony and to make recommendations. Owing to financial difficulties most of the recommendations could not be implemented. However arrangements were made for the Juvenile Courts to be held fortnightly on Wednesdays.

A C.D. & W. grant of \$480 was made for the supply of equipment to a boys' club which was specially formed for juvenile delinquents in the Castries area. The boys are taught carpentry and boot and shoe repairing.

Chapter 8: Legislation

Twenty-three Ordinances were passed in 1951 and 60 Statutory Rules and Orders were made. The following Ordinances merit special mention.

The Income Tax (Amendment) Ordinance (No. 3 of 1951) provides that the tax payable upon the chargeable income of the Colonial Development Corporation shall be calculated at the rate for the time being prescribed for companies.

The Police (Amendment) Ordinance (No. 5 of 1951) establishes a Police Welfare Association and a supplementary body of policemen called the "Special Reserve Police" which may be called out for service on the occasions specified in the Ordinance. The Ordinance makes provision for the payment of a pension or gratuity to a member of the Special Reserve or his dependents in the event of his injury or death while in the actual discharge of his duties.

The Central Library of St. Lucia Ordinance (No. 6 of 1951) repealed the St. Lucia Library Ordinance (No. 88 of 1916 Revised Edition) and re-established the library services of the Colony on an entirely new footing. Under this Ordinance the Governor may after consulting the Central Library Board establish and maintain such library facilities (to be called the Central Library of St. Lucia) as in his opinion are desirable to provide an efficient public library service throughout the Colony. The Central Library Board acts as an advisory body to the Governor in matters relating to library policy and may undertake such

executive duties as may be assigned to it by the Governor. It also has powers to make regulations for carrying into effect the provisions of the Ordinance.

The International Organisations (Immunities and Privileges) Ordinance (No. 7 of 1951) repeals the Diplomatic Privileges Ordinance, 1947, and makes other provisions as to the immunities, privileges and capacities of sovereigns, diplomatic agents and representatives of foreign powers and international organisations of which Her Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom and foreign Governments are members. The Ordinance also confers immunities and privileges on the staffs of such organisations and representatives of member Governments, their premises and documents.

The Exchange Control Ordinance (No. 11 of 1951) confers powers and imposes duties and restrictions in relation to dealings in gold, currency, payments, securities, debts, the importation and exportation of these articles, and the transfer and settlement of property.

The Aid to Pioneer Industries Ordinance (No. 12 of 1951) was passed to encourage the establishment and development in the Colony of new industries either by local or foreign capital. The Ordinance gives assistance to such industries in the form of relief from customs duty on articles imported into the Colony for use in the industry and also from income tax.

The Legislative Council (Elections) Ordinance (No. 13 of 1951) provides for the registration of persons entitled to vote at elections of members of the Legislative Council and regulates the procedure at such elections. This Ordinance was passed as a result of the coming into effect of the St. Lucia (Legislative Council) Order in Council, 1951, which gave to the Legislature an added measure of control over the affairs of the Colony.

The Pensions (Amendment) Ordinance (No. 15 of 1951) clarifies the pensionable status of officers serving in university institutions.

The Trade Unions and Trade Disputes (Amendment) Ordinance (No. 18 of 1951) gives the Registrar of Trade Unions power to sue a defaulting official on behalf of a trade union and specifies what financial statements and returns the treasurer of a union should make annually to the Registrar.

The Loan (Soufriere Hydro-electric Power) Ordinance (No. 20 of 1951) empowers the Governor or the Crown Agents acting on his behalf to raise a loan of \$158,400 to be appropriated and applied to the purpose of establishing a hydro-electric power plant at Soufriere.

The subsidiary legislation of 1951 dealt with varied subjects the most important of which were the Legislative Council (Elections) Regulations (S.R. & O. 1951 No. 38) and the Currency (Notes) Regulations (S.R. & O. 1951 No. 39).

Twenty-one Ordinances were passed in 1952 and 61 Statutory Rules and Orders were made.

The Wages Councils Ordinance (No. 1 of 1952) empowers the Governor in Council to establish a Wages Council which may submit

proposals for a statutory minimum wage, holidays with pay and other matters in relation to any particular industry where no adequate machinery exists for collective bargaining between employers and workers. Under this Ordinance and the subsidiary legislation made thereunder a Wages Council for the Sugar Industry was established in January, 1953, which submitted proposals for consideration by the Governor. These proposals were approved and subsequently embodied in a statutory order.

The Accidents and Occupational Diseases (Notification) Ordinance (No. 3 of 1952) sets up machinery whereby accidents arising out of and in the course of the employment of any worker must be notified to the Labour Officer when death or disablement results therefrom. The Ordinance also gives the Governor power to direct a formal investigation into any accident and occupational disease causing the death of a worker, where he considers it expedient to do so. This Ordinance has not yet been proclaimed.

The Workmen's Compensation (Amendment) Ordinance (No. 6 of 1952) permits medical expenses to be added to the compensation recoverable by an injured workman under Section 3 of the principal Ordinance.

The Consular Conventions Ordinance (No. 8 of 1952) confers upon the consular officers of foreign states with which consular conventions have been concluded by Her Majesty certain powers relating to the administration of the estates and property of deceased persons, and restricts the powers of constables and other persons to enter the consular offices of such states except in certain cases specified in the Ordinance. The Ordinance is similar in scope to the United Kingdom Consular Conventions Act, 1949.

The Public Order Ordinance (No. 10 of 1952) is based on the United Kingdom Public Order Act and is designed to prohibit the wearing of uniforms in connection with political objects and the maintenance by private persons of associations of military or similar character. The Ordinance also makes provision for the preservation of public order on the occasion of public processions and meetings and in public places.

The Public Utility Undertaking and Public Health Services Arbitration Ordinance (No. 12 of 1952) which has not yet been proclaimed sets up an arbitration tribunal to settle disputes in the water, electricity, health, hospital, sanitary and telephone services of the Colony. The tribunal is to consist of three members appointed by the Governor, one of whom shall be Chairman, and two other members, one of whom shall be chosen to represent employers and the other to represent workers. The persons to represent employers and workers in the tribunal are chosen by the Governor from panels of persons representative of employers and workers respectively after consultation with the organisations concerned.

The Electricity Ordinance (No. 20 of 1952) provides the system for regulating the supply of electricity in the Colony. A Board called the South-Western Electricity Board is set up with power to ensure the generation and distribution of electric power in the southern and western areas of the Colony. The Castries Town Board is exempted from the operation of the Ordinance in relation to the area within which it supplies electric current under the Electricity Supply Ordinance, 1933.

Chapter 9: Justice, Police and Prisons

JUSTICE

It is convenient to begin a review of the law of St. Lucia from the capitulation of the island to General Grinfield on 22nd June, 1803, and the assurance to the inhabitants by Proclamation that they should continue in the enjoyment of their rights in accordance with the laws which existed immediately prior to the cession. The proclamation of 1803, therefore, continued the law and ordinances of the French monarchy as the law of the Colony, at least in civil matters.

In 1876 owing to uncertainty concerning the law in civil matters, the Civil Code Ordinance was passed and by 1879 the Civil Code and Code of Civil Procedure were produced, based on the ancient law of the island with such amendments as the circumstances of the time required.

Broadly speaking, the law relating to commercial matters is based on principles of English law. The Code was compiled in 1916 ; it follows faithfully the lines of existing English statutes, and in that year also statutes of St. Lucia were revised and collected into two volumes called the Revised Ordinances of St. Lucia, 1916. Subordinate legislation was collected in a separate volume called Revised Rules and Orders, 1916. It was not till 1920 that the Criminal Code (Law and Procedure) made its appearance.

Since 1916 new laws, whether by way of amendment to the codes or otherwise, have been published in annual volumes of the Ordinances and Statutory Rules and Orders of St. Lucia.

For the administration of justice the island has been divided into three Judicial Districts. The District Courts of Judicature are presided over by Magistrates who exercise a summary jurisdiction in civil and criminal matters.

The present Superior Court was constituted by the Leeward Islands and Windward Islands (Courts) Order in Council, 1939, what was formerly the Royal Court becoming a circuit of the Supreme Court of the Windward Islands and Leeward Islands. The Court has unlimited original jurisdiction in all civil or criminal matters, and Admiralty jurisdiction within the meaning and intent of the Colonial Courts of Admiralty Act, 1890, and an appellate jurisdiction over the District Courts. In civil matters which are exclusively assigned to the District Courts, the Supreme Court has no original jurisdiction.

The Windward Islands and Leeward Islands Court of Appeal hears appeals from the Supreme Court in civil and criminal matters in accordance with the rules contained in Statutory Rules and Orders 67 of 1940 as amended. Normally, at least three judges constitute the Court of Appeal, but the rules prescribe classes of appeals to be determined by two judges. The classes so far prescribed are contained in S.R. & O. No. 36 of 1941.

The West Indian Court of Appeal is an alternative court of appeal in certain matters.

The following numbers of cases and persons were dealt with in the District Courts :

	<i>1st District Court</i>		<i>2nd District Court</i>		<i>3rd District Court</i>	
	1951	1952	1951	1952	1951	1952
No. of summary cases	2,074	2,438	727	886	361	474
No. of persons involved	2,431	2,895	861	1,019	442	584
Convictions	1,852	2,255	626	790	260	420
Acquittals and withdrawals	546	601	231	209	177	154
No. committed for trial	33	39	4	20	5	10
No. of civil cases	398	482	37	52	50	107

In the Supreme Court there were 33 civil cases, 39 criminal cases and 17 appeals in 1951, and 63 civil cases, 60 criminal cases and 10 appeals in 1952. There were no appeals to the Windward Islands Court of Appeal in 1951 ; there were two criminal and seven civil appeals in 1952.

CRIMINAL CASES

1951						
<i>Courts</i>	<i>Discharges</i>			<i>Convictions</i>		
	<i>Adults</i>	<i>Juveniles</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Adults</i>	<i>Juveniles</i>	<i>Total</i>
Supreme Court	14	—	14	30	2	32
First District Court	534	12	546	1,808	44	1,852
Second District Court	161	—	161	612	14	626
Third District Court	176	1	177	249	11	260
Totals for 1951	885	13	898	2,699	71	2,770

1952						
<i>Courts</i>	<i>Discharges</i>			<i>Convictions</i>		
	<i>Adults</i>	<i>Juveniles</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Adults</i>	<i>Juveniles</i>	<i>Total</i>
Supreme Court	12	—	12	33	3	36
First District Court	585	16	601	2,215	40	2,255
Second District Court	108	2	110	781	9	790
Third District Court	152	2	154	407	13	420
Totals for 1952	857	20	877	3,436	65	3,501

PUNISHMENT IMPOSED BY ALL COURTS, 1951 AND 1952.

	Fined	Whipped	Imprisonment				Bound over	
			Under 1 year	Up to 3 years		Over 3 years		Life
Supreme Court 1951	—	2	13	13	3	1*	—	
1952	4	—	9	14	7	—	2	

* Commuted death sentence.

	Fined		Whipped		Imprisonment										Bound Over	
					1 month or less		Over 1 month to 3 months		Over 3 months to 5 months		Over 6 months to 12 months		Over 1 year to 2 years			
	1951	1952	1951	1952	1951	1952	1951	1952	1951	1952	1951	1952	1951	1952		
First District Court	1,362	1,497	33	15	17	36	69	65	51	59	6	13	—	3	314	567
Second District Court	403	551	9	5	3	7	5	11	6	8	—	—	—	—	200	208
Third District	196	271	2	7	1	3	6	3	7	24	—	—	—	—	48	112

POLICE

The approved establishment of the Police Force was 210 in both years and in 1952 it comprised the following : one Superintendent of Police, one Deputy Superintendent, one Assistant Superintendent, one bandmaster, one inspector, two sub-inspectors, three station sergeants, and 200 other ranks. Thirty-one members of the Force are in the Fire Brigade.

In addition to normal Police duties the Force is responsible for fire fighting, migration, passports and permits, weights and measures, licensing of motor vehicles, and the N.C.O.s in charge of out-stations perform the duties of relieving officers.

During 1952 there was a general strike on the sugar estates, and it was necessary to request the assistance of a detachment of 30 policemen from the neighbouring Colony of Grenada to assist the local Force in policing the affected areas.

In addition to the Police Force a Constabulary of 14 men is employed by Castries Town for the purpose of enforcing municipal bye-laws, and there are Rural Constables (315 on 31st December, 1952) scattered throughout the Colony, who are usually employed as watchmen on estates. The latter have adequate powers of arrest, but cannot be considered as an integral part of the Local Force.

Buildings

In 1952 a combined Port Police and Fire Station, a new barrack block at Police Headquarters and a new police station in Micoud were completed.

Recruitment and Training

Eighty applicants were interviewed for enrolment in the Force in 1951 and 103 in 1952, with the following results :

	1951	1952
Educationally unsuitable	15	40
Medically unfit	5	16
Otherwise unsuitable	40	16
Accepted for training	20	31

In 1951 a sergeant of the C.I.D. attended a three-month course in C.I.D. work at the Metropolitan Police Training College, Hendon, and a three-month course in dog handling. He brought back one police dog for use in the Colony.

The Assistant Superintendent attended a six-month Junior Officers' Course at the Police College, Ryton-on-Dunsmore in 1952.

Two courses of four months' duration were held in each year for recruits. Recommendations were submitted for the establishment of a Police Training School to serve the Police Forces of the Windward and Leeward Islands.

Fingerprint and Photography

A fingerprint and photographic studio was established in 1952 and there are now 500 fingerprints and 191 photographs registered in the Criminal Record Office.

Traffic

There were 779 registered drivers in 1951 and 1,338 in 1952. Five hundred and ninety-four vehicles and 692 bicycles were registered in 1951 and 660 vehicles and 968 bicycles in 1952.

There were 78 non-fatal accidents in 1951 and 77 in 1952. The following traffic cases were reported in 1951 and 1952 :

	1951	1952
Cases reported	361	410
Prosecuted	361	410
Convicted	294	380
Acquitted	11	19
Withdrawn	56	11

Crime

Two thousand seven hundred and ninety-seven reports of crime were registered during 1952 ; after investigation 87 of these were refused and 103 found false. The remaining 2,607 were true cases of which 279 were indictable and 2,328 summary.

True cases reported in 1951 and 1952 were as follows :

Year	True Cases	Under Investigation	Closed Un-detected	Convictions	Acquittals	Withdrawn	Pending Trial
1951	2,104	165	444	1,223	78	133	61
1952	2,607	502	219	1,512	134	139	101

The number of persons taken to court were as follows :

Year	Total Arrested or Summoned		Acquitted		Nolle Prosequi		Awaiting Trial		Convicted	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
1951	1,475	425	111	41	115	24	47	17	1,202	343
1952	1,786	549	125	33	93	36	81	31	1,487	449

Juveniles and young persons are included in the figures given above ; those convicted were in the following age groups :

Year	Age				Total
	8-10	10-12	12-16	16-21	
1951	1	9	84	277	371
1952	7	19	109	418	553

Larceny and praedial larceny formed the greater part of the cases. There were 683 cases of larceny and 113 of praedial larceny in 1951, as against 820 and 182 respectively in 1952.

There were two cases of murder and one of manslaughter in 1952. The two accused in one case of murder were convicted for manslaughter and sentenced to 5 years each, and in the other case the accused was acquitted. The case of manslaughter was due to children fighting on

their way from school. A fatal blow was dealt by one of them and death resulted. One child was acquitted and one bound over for one year under the supervision of the Social Welfare Officer.

There were 162 cases of house, shop and kitchen breaking in 1951 and 169 in 1952.

PRISONS

The staff consists of a superintendent, a chief officer, a principal officer, 21 warders, one matron and one assistant matron.

The prison for male offenders is in Castries and the one for female offenders is at La Toc, approximately two miles from Castries. The section of the Royal Gaol which was formally the prison for women is now used for male first offenders.

The average daily population in 1951 was 91 males and 10.2 females as compared with 119.8 males and 8.4 females in 1952. Five hundred and twenty-three men and 102 women were committed in 1951 and 632 men and 83 women in 1952.

The main prison occupations are agriculture, baking, tailoring, shoemaking and the upkeep and cleaning of the grounds of Government buildings. A Prison (Extra-Mural Sentences) Ordinance is on the Statute Book but owing to the lack of suitable supervisors little use is made of it.

Chapter 10: Public Utilities and Public Works

WATER SUPPLY

The Castries Waterworks draws its supply from surface water originating in a watershed situated some five miles from the town of Castries. At its inception a large forest reserve was created at the upper level of the watershed, and the supply was wholly a gravity one, but within recent years the necessity for extension has resulted in the inclusion in the system of a pumped supply not originating wholly in the water reserve.

At the headworks of the gravity supply low diversion weirs across the streams at their upper reaches direct the water to screening chambers and then to the purification plant through asbestos cement and bitumen lined steel pipes. In the case of the pumped supply stream intakes constructed across the streams at lower elevations form a sump from which the water is pumped through similar pipes to the purification plant.

During the last three years the waterworks system has been undergoing considerable extension and improvement to bring the capacity to 800,000 gallons per day, more than double the previous capacity. The change has been effected by reconstructing the gravity mains and

installing five electrically operated centrifugal well pumps in place of two former oil engine driven centrifugal pumps. The latter are still being retained for emergencies. The pumps operate against overall heads of 350 and 440 ft. from two pumping stations.

Two service reservoirs provide storage for 800,000 gallons. Mains with hydrants for supplying shipping with water at rates up to about 10,000 gallons per hour are situated along the wharf. House connections are made at the householders' expense. A liberal number of street stand pipes provide water for those homes which do not have a private service.

Every dwelling within the Castries water area pays a water rate, and in addition dwellings outside that area which have a supply also pay a rate.

For fire protection a salt water main is being installed which will supplement the fresh water mains. Its capacity is 1,200 gallons per minute, but it is confined to that part of the town zoned mainly for commerce, industry and offices.

ELECTRICITY

The Castries station, which was built in 1933, was extended in 1951 to house five generating sets. The set which was expected in 1951 arrived early in 1953 and has yet to be installed.

The night peak load is carried by two 103.5 kW. sets and a 144kW. set, with a 72 kW. set as stand-by.

The number of consumers for the different services were as follows :

Lighting	.	.	.	.	.	.	1,311
Domestic	.	.	.	.	.	.	207
Power	.	.	.	.	.	.	45

The total current sold is estimated at 825,000 units.

PUBLIC WORKS

Works Completed

The Methodist Primary School Building in Castries, begun in February, 1951, and completed by mid-November (financed by C.D. and W. scheme D. 1507)

Retaining wall, Morne-La Toc, 170 feet long. Retaining walls at Leslie Land, Bexon and La Baye

Five tanks for fire protection in Castries

Matron's quarters, Victoria Hospital

Modifications and alterations to the Laboratory at Victoria Hospital

Renovations at Malgretoute Institution

Micoud Police Station

Major repairs to Ravine Souffre Bridge

Anse la Raye Bridge and Choc Bridge

Reconstruction of Tapon Light House Bridge

Point Seraphin Road (this work was undertaken for the Colonial Development Corporation ; 785 feet were completed at a cost of £980).

Works in Progress

Anse la Raye Water Supply. The scheme is designed to provide 50,000 gallons of pure water daily and is capable of extension. A low dam and intake has been built two miles up the river. The water is piped to a sedimentation tank and filter beds and is distributed to the township from a storage reservoir. The scheme is estimated to cost \$29,000.

Feeder Roads. The following work was done on feeder roads :

Marquis Road	5 miles repaired
Bois Jolie Track	2 miles constructed
Raillon Road	1½ miles constructed
Soufriere Quatre Chemin	2 miles constructed
Anse la Raye—Anse Galet	¾ miles constructed
Bellevue-Beausejour	2 miles repaired and 2 causeways constructed.

Chapter 11: Communications

SHIPPING

Port Castries harbour, situated on the west coast of the Island, can accommodate all but the largest vessels and is considered one of the most sheltered anchorages in the West Indies. There are three wharfs : Northern Wharf, 640 ft. in length with an overall depth of 27 ft. alongside ; Western Wharf 500 ft. in length with an overall depth of 3 fathoms alongside ; and the Reclamation Cable Depot Wharf, 600 ft. in length, 3 fathoms in depth at the western end to 1 fathom (this wharf is situated alongside the Cable Depot of Messrs. Cable & Wireless Ltd. and is reserved for the use of cable ships when in port).

There are two transit sheds of a total area of 11,280 sq. ft and an estimated capacity of 5,784 tons.

There is a Prestman floating crane with a capacity of 5 tons and a small tug which can be used for light duties only.

There is unlimited anchorage in all but abnormal weather outside the harbour entrance in between 10 and 15 fathoms of water. Vessels of 25 ft. draught and under may anchor as convenient in the stream at the discretion of the Harbour Master.

Vieux Fort Bay is situated at the south-eastern extremity of the Island and provides a safe anchorage except when the wind is in a southerly direction.

The bay, which was used during the last war for delivering supplies to the American Army Base, has a pier 1,150 ft. in length, 50ft. of which is available for ocean going ships. Facilities are provided for the supply of petrol and oil fuel and water, but the former are not at present in operation as the port is deactivated. It is, however, still a port of entry.

Anchorage is provided in 8 fathoms of water south-west of the pier.

SHIPPING SERVICES

The following lines called at St. Lucia during 1952 :

Canadian National Steamship Co.

Average 4 times a month to Canada and British Guiana via Islands with passengers and cargo (discontinued in November, 1952).

Alcoa Steamship Co. Inc.

Average 4 times a month to U.S.A. and Canada via Islands with passengers and cargo.

T. & J. Harrison Line.

Average once a month to Europe via Islands with cargo only.

Compagnie Generale Transatlantique.

Average once a month to Europe via Islands with passengers and cargo.

Royal Netherlands Steamship Co.

Average twice a month with transhipment cargo from Trinidad to Islands.

Chartered Shipping.

Refrigerator ships for banana trade to U.K. via Dominica.

The following vessels catered for inter-island travel :

M.V. *Daerwood*

Average twice a month to Barbados, St. Vincent, Curaçao and Aruba with passengers and cargo.

M.V. *Lady Joy*

Average twice a month to Barbados with passengers and cargo.

Aux. Sch. *Grenville Lass*

Average 4 times a month to Martinique with passengers.

Other sailing vessels, auxiliary schooners and sloops

Average 22 times a month to islands, mainly Barbados.

Statistics of Ships of different kinds using Ports.

<i>Description</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Gross Tonnage</i>
War Ships	3	3,928 ·66
Motor Tankers	10	31,240 ·79
Steamers	75	454,496 ·35
Motor Ships	65	181,461 ·30
Motor Vessels	119	32,227 ·47
Sailing Vessels	186	7,845 ·84
Aux. Schooners	111	6,159 ·30
Aux. Sloops	15	600 ·00
Yachts	83	2,421 ·32
Crash Boats (Govt.)	2	—
	669	720,381 ·03

There were 5,661 inward passengers and 6,106 outward in 1952 ; inward freight was 24,388 tons and outward 19,739 tons.

ROADS AND VEHICLES

The mileage of different types of road is as follows :

Main roads	124 miles
2nd class roads	89 „
Unclassified roads	175 „

The following vehicles were registered in the Colony :

	<i>1951</i>	<i>1952</i>
Fire Engines	5	5
Trucks, Lorries and Tractors	89	100
Buses	82	90
Cars (Hire)	71	85
Cars (Private)	264	295
Motor Cycles	46	47
Vans	31	32
Hearses	4	4
Ambulances	2	2
TOTAL	594	660

AIR

There are two airports : Vigie Airport two miles from Castries and Beane Field Airport about 40 miles from Castries ; the latter has been " de-activated " since 1950, but permission to use it may be obtained on application to the St. Lucia Government. The Vigie runway is of asphalt 4,500 feet x 250 feet. Beane Field has two runways both of concrete and 5,000 feet x 250 feet.

Aircraft movements were as follows in 1952 :

	<i>In</i>	<i>Out</i>
Vigie	362	362
Beane Field	276	276

Passenger traffic was as follows in 1952 :

	<i>In</i>	<i>Out</i>	<i>In Transit</i>	<i>Total</i>
Vigie	2,002	1,993	1,038	5,033
Beane Field	589	788	1,340	2,717

Throughout 1951 and 1952 British West Indian Airways continued their service between the British and French West Indian Islands, British Guiana and British Honduras. Connection with Dominica and St. Vincent is made by the St. Vincent Government Air Service via Barbados. Charter flights by K.L.M. planes connected the Colony with Curacao and Aruba. Pan American Airways planes called at Beane Field from the United States via Puerto Rico and Antigua until April, 1952, when the service was discontinued.

POSTS

Surface mails from and to the United Kingdom, Europe, Canada and the United States of America were received and despatched by steamers of the Harrison Line, Canadian National Steamships and the Alcoa Steamship Company. Mails were also despatched via Barbados by the M.V. *Lady Joy* and the many schooners that ply between the West Indian islands.

Mail for the French islands was despatched by the steamers of the French Line plying between Martinique and St. Lucia and between Martinique and French Guiana via the southern islands.

Air mails were sent by British West Indian Airways to Trinidad for despatch to Europe and America by B.O.A.C. and Pan American Airways.

Internal posts are carried between Castries and Vieux Fort by motor bus four times per week, and by boat five times a week. Passengers and cargo are also carried by the bus and motor vessel.

During 1951 there were three commemorative issues of stamps : the West Indies University stamps of 3 cents and 12 cents denominations on sale from 16th February to 15th May ; the Castries Reconstruction stamps of 12 cents denomination, depicting a Phoenix Bird rising from the flames, on sale from 19th June, the anniversary of the Castries fire of 1948, to 18th December ; and the New Constitution stamps of 2 cents, 4 cents, 5 cents and 12 cents denominations, on sale from 25th October to 24th December.

The sale of stamps in 1951 brought in \$89,808 compared with approximately \$55,653 in 1952.

Eight thousand eight hundred and sixteen parcels were received and 1,089 were despatched in 1951, compared with 8,981 and 1,171 respectively in 1952. The sum of \$51,809 was collected in import duty in 1951 and \$56,229 in 1952.

U.S.A. money orders paid amounted to \$54,195 in 1951 and to \$48,985 in 1952.

There is a telegraph money order service with the United Kingdom. Fourteen telegraph money orders were received from the United Kingdom amounting to \$978, and four orders were despatched amounting to \$312 in 1951, compared with four orders received amounting to \$233 and seven orders despatched amounting to \$466 in 1952.

TELEPHONES

The Telephone Department was visited by Mr. Harvey Smith and Mr. Maloney in 1951 to advise on the improvement of the telephone service.

In 1951 all the trunk lines from the Vieux Fort Exchange to the Soufriere District were reconstructed, all rotten poles were replaced by new wallaba poles and 12 miles of telephone wires were completely changed. The Gros Islet trunk line was converted from earth to metallic and in addition a 5-point switch-board was installed at the Gros Islet Police Station from which three new installations were later effected.

In 1951 the Department completed twelve new installations and five party line code ringing installations in Castries ; also four new installations were completed in the country districts.

In April, 1952, a start was made on the reconditioning of trunk lines from Soufriere to Anse-la-Raye ; at the same time an additional trunk line from Soufriere to Canaries was built and a five point switch-board similar to the existing ones at Anse-la-Raye and Gros Islet was installed. With this additional trunk it is now possible to get into touch with Canaries either through Anse-la-Raye or direct from Soufriere.

The Telephone Department received 50 telephones from the Crown Agents in September, 1952, and was able to install 30 instruments in Castries. Two public telephones were installed in isolated areas and seven new installations were made in the country districts. At the end of 1952 the whole scheme for reconstruction of telephones in Castries came to a close.

Chapter 12: Press, Broadcasting, Films and Government Information Services

PRESS

Two newspapers are published in Castries :

The Voice of St. Lucia, established in 1885, is usually published five times a week.

The West Indian Crusader, founded in 1934, is a bi-weekly publication.

BROADCASTING

There is no broadcasting service in St. Lucia, but there is a Colonial Development and Welfare scheme to provide a broadcasting station for the Windward Islands ; the station will be located in Grenada.

FILMS

No films are produced at present in the Colony, but in the near future with the help of Colonial Development and Welfare funds it is hoped that the Colony will be able to produce documentaries and filmstrips for local use. The Public Relations Officer has recently received a course of training in cine-photography and filmstrip production at the Colonial Film Unit in London.

There is one commercial cinema in the Colony. American and British films are shown, but all news shorts are British.

The St. Lucia Film Society was started in 1952.

INFORMATION SERVICES

By and large the public has come to regard the Public Relations Office as an agency whose function is to explain the policies, actions and achievements of the Government and to supply any information which the public may require.

Press communiques, handouts and administrative reports were issued to the press and public. Special handouts were prepared and posted on news boards in the rural areas.

Feature articles, booklets and photographs of topical interest supplied by the Central Office of Information, London, were distributed to the press and public. The press made good use of this material as well as the items from the London Press Service.

" British News " was shown by the commercial cinema and filmstrips and 16 mm. documentaries were shown at monthly intervals in the schools and in the rural areas. Filmstrips are also loaned to schools and other interested groups.

The work of the Department is carried out by the Public Relations and Social Welfare Officer (who is also Probation Officer) and a junior clerk.

PART III

Chapter 1: Geography and Climate

GEOGRAPHY

ST. LUCIA is one of the curved chain of volcanic islands which comprise the Lesser Antilles. It is situated between the longitude limits $60^{\circ} 53'$ West and $61^{\circ} 05'$ West and the latitude limits $13^{\circ} 43'$ North and $14^{\circ} 07'$ North. It lies approximately halfway between St. Vincent to the south and the French island of Martinique to the north. Its greatest length north to south is 27 miles, its greatest breadth 14 miles. The area 233 square miles, is a little more than that of the Isle of Man.

The Island is mountainous, the highest peak being Mt. Gimie (3,145 feet). The most spectacular mountains are the Gros Piton (2,619 feet) and the Petit Piton (2,461 feet), which are old volcanic forest clad cones rising sheer out of the sea near the town of Soufriere on the leeward coast. A few miles away in an ancient crater are dark coloured, hot, bubbling sulphurous springs, an indication of the decadent volcanic activity of this district. The mountains are intersected by numerous short rivers. In places, these rivers debouch into broad fertile and well cultivated valleys.

The mountainous build and forested nature of the island have virtually restricted settlement to the coastal areas. The capital, Castries, is situated on a fine sheltered deep-water harbour. The towns, Soufriere, Vieux Fort, and the villages, Anse-la-Raye, Dennery, Micoud, Canaries, Laborie, Gros Islet, Choiseul are all on the coast.

Motorable roads connect Castries with all the main centres of population except one which is accessible only by sea. There is regular coastal communication on the leeward side of the island ; sloops and schooners also ply an inter-island trade from Castries. Modern conditions—especially the increasing use of oil-burning vessels—have led to the decline of the formerly important coaling industry in Castries. The harbour is still an important port of call for ocean-going liners and naval craft.

CLIMATE

The island lies in latitudes where the north east trade winds are almost a constant influence. The rainfall varies considerably, being greatest in the interior mountain regions ; for example, it averages about 158 inches in Quillesse (central interior) and about 70 inches in Vieux Fort (south coast).

The first four months of the year tend to be the driest. During the rest of the year there is much variation with an insufficiency of reliable data to draw sound conclusions. Reliable temperature figures are not

available. Generally speaking it can be said that the temperature rarely exceeds 90° F. and seldom falls below 70° F. except in the higher altitudes. The daily range is small. At Morne Fortune (Castries, 845 feet) wind percentage figures show that 90 per cent of the winds come from the east, east-north-east, and north-east, a constancy of direction which is reflected in the fact that Castries airport has a one-directional air strip.

Chapter 2: History

So scant is the information on the early history of St. Lucia that the date of discovery is uncertain, for according to the known evidence of Columbus's voyages, he appears to have missed the island. Archaeological finds in various parts of the island, hitherto of no major significance, may yet contribute to our knowledge about the Caribs, the aboriginal inhabitants of the island, who resisted the early attempts at European settlement.

The first known attempt at settlement was made in 1605 when the *Olive Branch*, driven off course when en route for Guiana, landed its 67 passengers under the command of Captain Nicholas St. John. On the ship's departure the colonists were attacked by the Caribs and, after several day's severe fighting, the nineteen survivors took to their boat. The island was included in the grant made to the Earl of Carlisle by Charles I in July, 1627, and a more determined attempt at settlement was made in 1638 when 130 colonists arrived from Bermuda and Major Judge was appointed Governor. Though reinforcements arrived in 1639 and 1640 the colonists were unable to withstand the Carib attackers, and the island was again abandoned in 1641.

Meanwhile the French developed an interest in the island which they claimed was included in a grant made by Cardinal Richelieu to M. d'Esnambuc in October, 1626. In 1643 M. du Parquet, Lieutenant-General of Martinique, appointed M. Rousselan Governor of St. Lucia. M. Rousselan, who married a Carib, maintained his authority till his death in 1654, but his successors had brief and tragic careers. In 1660, however, local treaties were negotiated by the French Governors of St. Christopher and Guadeloupe and the British Governors of Nevis, Antigua and Montserrat on the one hand and between the French and the Caribs on the other; these treaties left the French in possession of St. Lucia and the possibility of peaceful co-existence arose. But in 1663 Francis Lord Willoughby reached Barbados as Governor and as heir to the English Patent and to the problem of finding accommodation for Barbados' surplus population. Barbados not being party to the 1660 treaty, he utilised the services of "Indian" Warner to purchase St. Lucia from the Caribs and the following year, 1664, sent an expedition under Colonel Carew to occupy the island, the French Governor capitulating without a shot being fired. The settlement proved a failure

and, on the English withdrawal from the island early in 1666, the French resumed occupation. But the wars of 1673 and 1688, the attacks of the English and the lack of assistance received by the settlement from Martinique forced a French withdrawal in turn.

In 1718 a fresh grant of the island was made by the French regent, the Duke of Orleans, to Marshal D'Estrées, who attempted to settle it with refugees. British objections were raised to this grant and in 1772 George I granted St. Lucia and St. Vincent to the Duke of Montagu. An expedition under Nathaniel Uring was fitted out at great expense to consolidate this grant ; but local French opposition proved too strong and the expedition was forced to withdraw early in 1723 on the signature of an agreement that subsequent to the British withdrawal the French would also evacuate and leave the island in its former state till a decision should be reached between the two Crowns.

The next attempt at settlement was made in 1744, when England and France being once again at war, the Marquis de Champigny, Governor of Martinique, established a garrison there under M. de Longueville as military commandant. The Treaty of Aix la Chapelle in 1748 in theory once more restored the *status quo ante* ; in practice, however, M. de Longueville remained as civil commandant till his death in 1761, when he was succeeded by his nephew. Meanwhile English and French commissaries disputed at length the respective rights of their nations to the island.

In February, 1762, war having once again broken out the island surrendered to Captain Hervey, one of Lord Rodney's staff ; but at the Treaty of Paris in 1763 the island was finally assigned to France. With security of tenure at last, apparently, assured the French proceeded rapidly with its development and fortification. The fortifications were strengthened by the construction of the massive forts on Morne Fortune and the capital was removed to its present site from Le Petit Carenage in the Castries harbour on the Vigie peninsula. But the island was not yet due for a period of peaceful progress ; with one of the finest small harbours in the Caribbean its military importance was such that it immediately became a target when war broke out, and its improved defences only ensured that subsequent fighting should be more bloody. In December, 1778, a strong British expedition surprised and captured the island and French relieving forces under Count d'Etaing were beaten off. Lord Rodney was so impressed by the strategic potentialities of the island as a naval base that he wrote at length in May, 1778, to the Earl of Sandwich stressing the importance of retaining the island (his letter is reproduced in full in H. H. Breen's *St. Lucia*), and it was from St. Lucia that he sailed in 1782 to win his great Battle of the Saints over the French under de Grasse. But in 1783 it was agreed in the Treaty of Versailles that the island should once again be restored to France, though the British continued in possession till January, 1784.

When war broke out again an expedition was sent from England to the West Indies under Admiral Jervis. This force surprised the French

and captured St. Lucia in April, 1794. France at this time was in the throes of its revolution and in February, 1794, a decree had been promulgated for the abolition of slavery in the French Antilles. On the surrender of St. Lucia many of the ex-slaves and a number of French soldiers escaped into the woods whence, with the aid of planters of republican sympathies, they harassed the British. In June, 1794, Victor Hugues arrived in Guadeloupe as representative of the National Convention, and he so succeeded in organising and inspiring the disaffected that they compelled the depleted British garrison to withdraw in 1795. A strong British force under General Abercrombie reconquered the fortifications after severe fighting in the summer of 1796 ; but it was not till the end of 1797 that guerilla warfare ceased and the "Armée française dans les bois" surrendered at discretion.

By the Treaty of Amiens in 1802 the island was yet once more returned to France. But with the resumption of hostilities it again became the object of British attack and it was captured in June, 1803. Since then St. Lucia has remained without interruption under British rule, and it was finally ceded to Britain by the Treaty of Paris in 1814.

Till 1838 St. Lucia was administered as a separate administrative unit, its Governor being in direct correspondence with the Colonial Office. In 1838 it was annexed to the Government of the Windward Islands, then comprising Barbados, Grenada, St. Vincent and Tobago with the seat of the government at Barbados. Though from time to time since then the composition and the seat of government of the Windward Islands has changed, St. Lucia has always remained a member.

An important event in St. Lucia's history was the establishment of two United States bases under the 1940 Anglo-American agreement. In 1950 one of these bases—at Beane Field—was "de-activated" and the Government assumed control by agreement.

When the French claim to the island was conceded in 1763 their first aim was to develop the colony as an entrepôt centre. But estates were also planted with coffee, cocoa and cotton ; the first sugar estate was established in 1765 and sugar gradually obtained pre-eminence in the Colony's economy. As British annexation came when talk of emancipation was in the air and as it was followed by the Emancipation Act in 1833, economic development was slow ; but later in the century with the advent of steamships the Colony became an important coaling station, an activity which reached its peak during the 1914-18 war ; with the change over to oil-burning vessels this trade has declined.

On the whole St. Lucia has escaped the hurricanes, earthquakes and other visitations of nature which have caused so much damage in the other West Indian islands. The first recorded instance of a hurricane visiting the island occurred in 1675 ; it was visited by severe hurricanes in 1780 and 1817—the latter blowing down Government House and burying the Governor and many others in the ruins. The latest major disaster was the fire of 19th-20th June, 1948, which destroyed the capital, Castries.

Chapter 3 : Administration

The Government of St. Lucia is administered by an Administrator who is responsible to the Governor of the Windward Islands, and is aided by an Executive Council. The constitution of the Executive Council is regulated by Article 9 of the Royal Instructions dated 10th August, 1951, as amended by additional instructions of 1952 and consists of the following persons : the Governor (if he is present in the Colony) ; the Administrator, the Crown Attorney and the Financial Secretary as *ex officio* members ; the Assistant Administrator as the official member ; one member being a nominated member of the Legislative Council ; and three elected members of the Legislative Council elected from that body in accordance with Article 12 of the Royal Instructions. In the absence of the Governor, the Administrator presides over meetings of the Executive Council, and the *ex officio* membership is reduced to two.

The law-making body is the Legislative Council reconstituted in 1951 by the St. Lucia (Legislative Council) Order in Council 1951, and consists of the Administrator as President, the Crown Attorney and the Financial Secretary as *ex officio* members, three nominated members and eight elected members. The office of Deputy President is filled by a member elected by the Council from among the nominated and elected members. Elections to the Legislative Council are conducted on the basis of universal adult suffrage, but an elector must have a residential qualification of at least twelve months in the Colony before the date of his registration as an elector, or be domiciled in the Colony.

The members of the Executive and Legislative Councils are listed in the Appendix to this chapter.

Under the Legislative Council (Elections) Ordinance, (No. 13 of 1951) a new list of voters was prepared which came into force on 25th September, 1951. By section 4 (1) of the Ordinance the Governor may by proclamation appoint a date for the compilation of electoral lists, but in no case may such date be later than three years after the date of the last preceding general election of members of the Legislative Council.

The powers of the Governor are contained in Letters Patent dated 27th August, 1951 and Royal Instructions dated 10th August, 1951. The Governor has reserved powers under section 26 of the St. Lucia (Legislative Council) Order in Council, 1951, for ensuring the passage of legislation which he considers expedient in the interests of public order, public faith or of good government. The proceedings of the Legislative Council are regulated by Standing Rules and Orders called the Legislative Council Rules which were made by the Legislative Council under Section 19 of the St. Lucia (Legislative Council) Order in Council 1951 on 8th December, 1952, and approved by the Governor on 19th December.

A Standing Committee on Finance of which the Administrator and Financial Secretary are *ex officio* members was established by rule 35 of the Legislative Council Rules. All unofficial members of the Legislative Council are members of this Committee of which the Administrator is *ex officio* chairman, but only the unofficial members may vote.

Directly responsible to the Administrator are the Heads of Departments. The following are the principal departments : Administration, Agricultural, Audit, Education, Land and Surveys, Labour, Legal, Medical, Police, Public Relations and Social Welfare, Port and Marine, Post Office, Public Works and Treasury and Customs.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Castries Town Board

This Board is a wholly elected body of nine, and its history dates back to 1890 ; it is one of the oldest bodies of its kind in the West Indies. Elections are held annually ; one-third of the members retire every year in rotation, but are eligible for re-election. The members select their own chairman, whose tenure of office has, since 1950, been increased from 2 to 3 years.

Since December, 1951, elections to the Board have been held on the basis of universal adult suffrage with a literacy test (ability to sign one's name). The direct result was a 50 per cent increase in the number of voters on the municipal register. In the 1952 elections 37 per cent of the electorate went to the polls.

Besides their normal municipal functions, the Board has recently made substantial extensions in their lighting and water services, which will result in an increase of revenue. Over 52,500 feet of water mains were laid in a scheme costing about £56,000, of which £25,000 was a Colonial Development and Welfare grant and £31,000 a loan.

Town and Village Councils

The two town and seven village councils are making a strong effort to grapple with their problems. These bodies are assisted and guided by a District Officer. Because of illiteracy one of the chief difficulties confronting these bodies is the very limited number of persons with enough aptitude and self-confidence to come forward for election.

There can be no doubt that this system of democratic local government is leading councillors to a more realistic approach to financial affairs. The effect is one of growing appreciation for the present difficulties of the Central Government by communities previously uninformed and remote from the centre of Government. Most of the local authorities use a village newsboard for disseminating information, written and pictorial, of St. Lucian as well as Commonwealth affairs.

In 1952 a bold experiment was made by granting financial autonomy to the Soufriere Town Council. It is still too early to evaluate the result of this experiment.

During 1951-52 six local authorities constructed an aggregate of about 5,000 feet of concrete drains and pavements and 5,000 feet of

roadway. One authority gave its community a piped water supply including domestic water service to several dwellings ; 2,200 feet of small pipeline were laid. With financial and technical help from the Public Health Engineering Unit, several authorities changed over to improved and more efficient types of latrine accommodation. One authority has, over a period of two financial years, completed a community hall for its village—the first effort of this kind ; another authority has been able, through a small loan authorised by the Central Government, to procure a lot with a building for conversion into a suitable community hall, and a third authority has bought a small diesel plant and supplies electricity to a village.

All these efforts were made possible through the annual block grant of £3,000 from the Central Government. This amount was allocated among the nine Authorities according to their needs, services and ratability. In most cases these allocations represented a considerable percentage (seldom less than 50 per cent) of their total budgets. There is still a very great deal to be done, but much will depend on the improvement of the Colony's present financial position.

APPENDIX

MEMBERS OF EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

The Governor (*when present in the Colony*)

The Administrator

The Crown Attorney

The Financial Secretary

I. H. Seeling

H. B. Collymore

C. G. D. LaCorbiniere

L. G. A. McVane

M. C. Salles-Miquelle

Mr. P. C. Lewis assumed the duties of Crown Attorney in place of Mr. K. C. H. Alleyne and became a member of the Executive Council on 12th August, 1952.

Colonel A. G. Tubb assumed the duties of Financial Secretary on 4th March, 1952, and became a member of the Executive Council in place of Mr. A. C. H. Baynes, then Colonial Treasurer and now Accountant General.

Mr. I. H. Seeling was appointed the official member of the Executive Council in place of Mr. F. J. Degazon, on the latter's appointment as Acting Administrator on 14th May, 1952.

MEMBERS OF LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

The Administrator (*ex-officio*)

The Crown Attorney (*ex officio*)

The Financial Secretary (*ex officio*)

J. L. Charles, Elected Member for the Eighth Electoral District (Dennery and Micoud)

- L. G. A. McVane, Elected Member for the Fifth Electoral District (Soufriere)
 M. Grace Augustin, Third Nominated Member.
 G. F. L. Charles, Elected Member for the Third Electoral District (South Castries)
 H. B. Collymore, Elected Member for the Second Electoral District (North Castries)
 J. F. M. Devaux, First Nominated Member
 C. G. D. LaCorbiniere, Elected Member for the First Electoral District (Central Castries)
 G. A. Mason, Elected Member for the Sixth Electoral District (Choiseul)
 M. C. Salles-Miquelle, Second Nominated Member
 A. L. Theodore, Elected Member for the Seventh Electoral District (Vieux Fort and Laborie)

The Fourth Electoral District (Canaries and Anse-la-Raye) seat is vacant because Mr. W. G. Brown, who was elected for that constituency, was found to be not a fit and proper person to sit on the Council as prescribed by the Saint Lucia (Legislative Council) (Order-in-Council), 1951.

Chapter 4 : Weights and Measures

The standard measures recognised by the laws of St. Lucia are the Imperial yard, the Imperial pound, and the Imperial gallon.

Chapter 5: Reading List

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 GARRAWAY, E. G. *St. Lucia Handbook*. 1900, 1902 and 1903. Revised by W. W. Palmer and M. G. Augustin. Castries, 1924.
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The Memorials of the English and French Commissaries concerning St. Lucia. London, 1755.
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- DU TERTRE, J. B. *Historie Generale des Antilles habitees par les Francais*, 4 vols. Paris, 1667-71.
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- The West Indies and Caribbean Year Book*. 1953-54 Annual. Skinner.

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An investigation of Credit Facilities for small Cultivators in the Windward Islands, by E. L. Jack.

Report on the Causes and Circumstances of the Fire in Castries, St. Lucia, on the 19th and 20th June, 1948, by Mr. Justice A. V. Crane.

Report of the Enquiry held into the St. Lucia Police Force, July, 1948, by Brigadier A. S. Mavrogordato.

The Revised Sketch Development Plan, 1946-1956.

Financial Survey, 1950, by A. M. Macleod-Smith.

Memoir of the Constitutional Development of St. Lucia, by K. H. C. Alleyne.

The Fisheries of the British West Indies. Report on a visit in 1949 by C. F. Hickling. Development and Welfare in the West Indies Bulletin No. 29, 1950.

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Report of the Commission appointed by His Excellency the Governor to enquire into the stoppage of work at the Sugar Factories in St. Lucia in March, 1952, and into the adequacy of the existing Wage-Fixing Machinery in that Colony. 1951.

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Colonial Insecticides Committee.

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Colonial Fisheries Advisory Committee.

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- VOLUME I.** The Central African and High Commission Territories (Northern Rhodesia, Nyasaland, Basutoland, Bechuanaland and Swaziland). Published March, 1952.
Colonial No. 281-1. 25s. (25s. 3d.)
- VOLUME II.** The East African Territories (Kenya, Uganda, Tanganyika, Zanzibar and the Somaliland Protectorate), with Aden, Mauritius and Seychelles.
Colonial No. 281-2. 32s. 6d. (32s. 11d.)
- VOLUME III.** The West African Territories (Nigeria, the Gold Coast, Sierra Leone and the Gambia), with St. Helena. Published February, 1952.
Colonial No. 281-3. 25s. (25s. 3d.)
- VOLUME IV.** The West Indian and American Territories (Jamaica, Trinidad, Barbados, British Guiana, British Honduras, the Leeward Islands and the Windward Islands), with the Bahamas, Bermuda and the Falkland Islands. Published February, 1953.
Colonial No. 281-4. 40s. (40s. 6d.)
- VOLUME V.** The Far Eastern Territories (The Federation of Malaya, Singapore, Hong Kong, North Borneo, Sarawak and Brunei).
Colonial No. 281-5. *In preparation.*
- VOLUME VI.** The Mediterranean and Pacific Territories (Cyprus, Gibraltar, Fiji, the Gilbert and Ellice Islands, Tonga and the New Hebrides). This volume also includes a chapter on the economic situation of Malta. Published April, 1953.
Colonial No. 281-6. 30s. (30s. 4d.)
- VOLUME VII.** Products of the Colonial Territories. Published December, 1952.
Colonial No. 281-7. 42s. (42s. 6d.)

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ANNUAL REPORTS

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*These territories will produce a Report for 1952-53 and the remainder for 1953-54.

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COLONIAL REPORTS

St. Lucia
1953 & 1954

LONDON
HER MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE
1956

FOUR SHILLINGS NET

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REPORT ON ST. LUCIA

FOR THE YEARS
1953 and 1954

COLONIAL OFFICE

REPORT ON ST. LUCIA 1953 & 1954

ERRATA

*Page 4, line 18. For farm 15.0 per cent in 1954 read
from 15.0 per cent in 1953.*

Page 27, footnote, line 2. For enquire read enquire

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1956

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COLONIAL OFFICE

REPORT ON

FOR THE YEARS

1953 and 1954

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1956

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PART I

General Review

The Coronation. The Coronation of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II on June 2, 1953, was joyfully and loyally acclaimed throughout Saint Lucia. The senior elected member of the Legislative Council represented the Colony in the United Kingdom and his presence there on that great and historic occasion gave the people of St. Lucia a feeling of direct participation in an event which took place so far away, and at the same time was so real and so close to their hearts. Another event of outstanding significance was the arrival of Her Majesty the Queen in the British Caribbean. A day's holiday was declared to mark the occasion, and a member of the Legislative Council went to Jamaica to welcome Her Majesty and the Duke of Edinburgh.

Constitutional Development. The second General Election under universal adult franchise was held in September, 1954.

Proposals for further constitutional advance, including a Ministerial system, were announced in December, 1954.

Economic Matters. The year 1953 was one of the most difficult and anxious years the Colony had had. Expenditure on the reconstruction of Castries, which had amounted to some \$10,000,000 from all sources spread over a period of four years, came to an end in the middle of the year, and two of the sugar factories decided to go into voluntary liquidation. These two events caused a great drop in the spending power and a sharp rise in unemployment, and created not only an actual depression which had repercussions throughout the Colony, but widespread feelings of frustration amongst a large proportion of the people. Government took early steps to ease unemployment and with the approval of Her Majesty's Government raised a public loan of \$960,000 to help finance the formation of a new company to take over the sugar factories and estates of Roseau and Cul-de-Sac. The Secretary of State for the Colonies also approved the starting of a public works programme costing up to \$120,000. Efforts were made to stimulate banana production, the response was magnificent and by the end of 1953 exports had been doubled.

It can be said that in 1954 the Colony began to find its feet, and that modest but real progress was made. The major schemes prepared by the Development Commissioner were approved and initiated. The major contributors towards the improved economic position were the three main exporting industries, the sugar industry, the coconut industry and the banana industry. The most spectacular improvement was in the banana industry; the value of exports for 1954 exceeded that for 1953 by \$307,954. St. Lucia Banana Growers Ltd. assumed responsibility

for the control of the industry including the operation of leaf spot control, for which an interest free loan of \$38,400 for three years was approved from development funds. The St. Lucia Cane Farmers' Association was formed and became fully operative during the year, giving great stimulus to this important branch of the sugar industry. The St. Lucia Agriculturists' Association Ltd. received an interest free loan of \$24,000 for five years to initiate a credit scheme for the provision of fertilizers. Nurseries set up to produce improved planting material of the main crops made good progress. Excellent progress was also made with the Timber Development Scheme. The new Sugar Company (Sugar Manufacturers Limited) had a very successful year and paid a dividend of seven-and-a-half per cent.

Social Development. With the assistance of UNICEF and W.H.O. and with Colonial Development and Welfare funds, an insect control programme was launched in March, 1953. The campaign aims at the eradication of the yellow fever mosquito vector, the control of malaria and the reduction of other insect pests. The overall *Aedes* index had been reduced from 15.0 per cent in 1954 to 0.14 per cent at the end of 1954.

As a measure to control bilharzia, public baths and a laundry were put to use at Soufriere so as to help the inhabitants avoid using contaminated water.

The Government of St. Lucia entered into an agreement with U.N.I.C.E.F. to provide a milk ration to some 50 per cent of the primary school children and to a substantial number of others through the health clinics and hospitals.

An exhibition of Afro-Indian relics and remains was held under the auspices of the University College of the West Indies and was visited by the Professor of Archaeology of Yale University.

Representation at Conferences. During 1953 and 1954 the Colony was represented at the following conferences:

Conference on West Indian Federation in London.

British Caribbean Advisory Council on Agriculture,

Animal Health and Husbandry, Forests and Fisheries in Barbados.

Seventh meeting of Oils and Fats Conference in Barbados.

Eighth meeting of Oils and Fats Conference in Barbados.

Sixth meeting of Regional Economic Committee in Barbados.

British Caribbean Police Officers Conference in Barbados.

Police Officers Conference in Trinidad.

Regional Labour Board in Trinidad.

Conference on Trade Account Problems of the British Caribbean in Trinidad.

Seventh Meeting of the Regional Economic Committee in Trinidad.

Appointments, Honours and Visitors. In February, 1953, Mr. J. K. R. Thorp took over the administration of the Government.

On June 29th, 1953, His Excellency E. B. Beetham paid his first visit to the Colony and took his oaths of office.

In August of the same year, Mr. M. A. C. Hanschell took over the new post of Development Commissioner.

During the period under review, two St. Lucians received decorations from Her Majesty—Canon R. J. Laurie was made an Officer of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire and Mr. J. A. Belgrave was awarded the British Empire Medal. Coronation medals were awarded to 48 persons in the Colony.

Among the distinguished visitors were:

Lord Munster, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for the Colonies.

Mr. W. I. J. Wallace, of the West Indian Department of the Colonial Office.

Mr. P. Rogers, Assistant Under Secretary of State Colonial Office.

Mr. P. H. F. Dodd of the West Indies Department of the Colonial Office.

Sir Stephen Luke, Comptroller, Development and Welfare Organisation in the West Indies.

Mr. W. H. Ingrams, Adviser to the Secretary of State on Overseas Information.

Visits to the Island were paid by H.M.S. *Burghead Bay*, H.M.S. *Triumph*, H.M.S. *Enard Bay*, H.M.S. *Cygnat* and three units each of the United States and French Navies.

APPENDIX

Colonial Development and Welfare Schemes Initiated or in Progress in 1953 and 1954.

<i>Scheme No.</i>	<i>Grant \$</i>	<i>Title</i>
D.660	34,992	Soufriere Agricultural Centre.
D.734D	57,600	Executive Architect and Staff.
D.800	114,110.4	Extension of Cocoa Industry.
D.947 & A	162,489.60	Agricultural Development Vieux-Fort Area.
D.957	4,800	Laboratory Equipment for St. Mary's College.
D.969B	45,950.40	Additional Staff, Public Works Department.
D.989 & A	43,200	Maintenance of Lepers in British Guiana
D.1000 & A	93,710.40	Health Centres.
D.1108(188)	850	Six months attachment to Trinidad Secretariat.
D.1108(204)	558.80	Training in Customs and Excise work in Trinidad.
D.1108(209)	2,674	Training of Sanitary Inspector and Public Health Nurse in Jamaica.
D.1108(244)	1,248	Training of Sanitary Inspector in Jamaica.
D.1108(245)	1,200	Training of Nurse at the Public Health Training Centre, Jamaica.
D.1108(246)	1,344	Training of Sanitary Inspector in Jamaica.
D.1108(281)	1,440	Training of two officers at the Eastern Caribbean Farm Institute.
D.1108(313)	916.80	Training in coconut husbandry in Jamaica.

<i>Scheme No.</i>	<i>Grant \$</i>	<i>Title</i>
D.1108(314)	1,257·60	Training in coffee husbandry in Jamaica.
D.1108(315)	508·80	Refresher Course in Bacteriological Toxicology in Trinidad.
D.1108 (341)	1,200	Training of Nurse in Jamaica.
D.1231	45,163·20	Agricultural Department Staff.
D.1249 & A	32,160	Banana Industry.
D.1283 & A & B.	68,203·20	Public Health Engineering Staff.
D.1291	29,712	Conservator of Forests, Windward Islands.
D.1330	42,744	Investigation and Demonstration Centre, LaFargue.
D.1428	37,449·60	Public Health Works.
D.1428A & B	30,004·80	Public Health Engineering Unit Works.
D.1581 & A	71,520	Road Development.
D.1610 & A & B	108,960	Feeder Road Programme.
D.1642 & A	32,284	Anse-la-Raye Water Supply.
D.1649 & A-C	131,280	St. Lucia Feeder Road Programme—Plant and Staff.
D.1731 & A	26,582·40	Financial Secretary.
D.1735	51,504	Expansion of Sugar Production.
D.1767	19,200	Reorganisation of Banana Industry.
D.1767A	47,856	Re-habilitation and Expansion of Banana Industry.
D.1840	27,792	Staff and Equipment Feeder Road Programme.
D.1869 & A	29,952	Insect Control Programme.
D.1985	2,923,200	Castries Reconstruction.
D.1998 & A	163,680	Completion of the Anse Gallette—Quatre Chemin Section of the Anse-la-Raye—Soufriere Road.
D.2032	2,400	Encouragement of the Lobster Industry.
D.2057	26,572·80	Development of the Timber Industry.
D.2076	3,840	Dredging of Castries Harbour—Visit of Engineering Consultant.
D.2091	41,760	Appointment of Development Commissioner.
D.2097	8,784	Eastern Caribbean Farm Institute—Recurrent Administration Costs.
D.2154	60,000	Reconstruction of the Castries—Denery Road.
D.2162	104,779·20	Livestock Improvement.
D.2163	136,776	Cocoa Propagation.
D.2164	103,200	Investigation and Development (Agriculture).
D.2165	272,995·20	Agricultural Staff.
D.2192	201·60	Visit of Imperial College of Tropical Agriculture Lecturer.
D.2294	748·80	Trade Union Course, Jamaica.
D.2210	110,817·60	Feeder Road Programme.
D.2335	1,440	Maintenance and Operation of Fish Farm.

PART II

Chapter 1: Population

ACCORDING to the West Indian census taken in April, 1946, the population was 71,813. The estimated population in 1952, 1953 and 1954 was as follows:

1952	82,958
1953	84,812
1954	86,219

Births registered during the three years were as follows:

	1952	1953	1954
Males	1,450	1,558	1,610
Females	1,456	1,511	1,480
	2,906	3,069	3,090

For vital statistics see p.35.

There were 379 marriages registered in 1952, 322 in 1953 and 360 in 1954.

Chapter 2: Occupations, Wages and Labour Organisation

Employment. The estimated number of wage earners employed in the principal industries and occupations in the period under review was as follows:

	Male	Female
Agriculture	10,000	7,000
Fishing	1,200	300
<i>Manufacturing Industries</i>		
Factories (Sugar, ice, aerated)	900	100
Carpenters and Joiners	1,200	—
Fitters and Smiths	180	—
Painters	200	—
Masons and Helpers	700	—
Bakers	140	—
Printers, Compositors, etc.	120	—
Electricians	90	—
<i>Commerce</i>		
Retail Shopkeepers	50	350

	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>
Shop Assistants	150	920
Clerical Occupations and typists	150	50
Labourers	120	50
Hawkers and Pedlars	30	300
<i>General</i>		
Public Service	1,000 males and females	
<i>Domestic Service</i>		
Domestic Servants	30	1,500
Cooks	20	300
Laundress	—	250
Nursemaids and Others	—	350

As there are no relevant statistics available it is not possible to determine the extent of unemployment or under-employment in the Colony. During harvesting operations in the sugar valleys, work is provided for approximately 5,000 workers. In 1953, however, the number of workers employed during the harvest was fewer by 20 per cent and on its completion there was no work in the two larger sugar areas from May to November. This was due to the decision of the private companies owning those areas to go into voluntary liquidation. To relieve the resulting unemployment, relief work was provided by Government in the form of road work.

The banana industry, which is now island wide and rapidly expanding, provides employment for a number of people, especially women, for whom employment has not always been readily available. In 1954 it was estimated that an average of 500 persons were engaged fortnightly in operations connected with the shipment of bananas.

Emigration of agricultural workers to the U.S.A. to work on farms during the harvesting season continued in 1953 and 1954 on the same basis as previously. The Labour Officer and his staff conducted the recruiting formalities while the final screening was undertaken by representatives of the Farmers' Association who visited the Colony. As in former years the Government bore the cost of all recruiting formalities, and advanced to workers that portion of the cost of the return fare which was not the responsibility of the employers. Fares thus advanced are recoverable from the compulsory savings of the workers which are remitted at regular intervals to Government. The Regional Labour Board, which represents all the West Indian Governments participating in this scheme, has set up a Liaison Office in Washington with branch offices in other States so as to ensure that the terms of the contract are observed. In 1953 and 1954 a total of 133 workers was recruited for employment in the U.S.A.

Agricultural workers and foremen were also recruited for employment in the Guadeloupe sugar industry; 612 workers left the Colony in the period under review. The recruiting formalities were carried out by the Labour Officer and his staff. The employers bore the full cost of passages for the transportation and repatriation of the workers selected.

WAGES AND CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT

A Wages Council Order of 2nd March, 1953, provided for the statutory minimum remuneration payable to unskilled sugar workers as follows:

	<i>Per day</i>
Adult Male	\$1.44 cents
„ Female	.92 „
Boys 16—18 years	.78 „
Girls „ „	.63 „
Boys 14—16 „	.59 „
Girls „ „	.51 „

On the recommendations of the Labour Advisory Board in September, 1952, the statutory minimum wage for shop assistants and agricultural workers was increased by 20 per cent of the 1939 wage rates. The new rates, which became effective as from 1st September, 1953, were as follows:

*Labour (Minimum Wage) (Shop Assistants) Amendment Order
No. 24 of 1953*

	<i>1952</i> <i>Per month</i>	<i>1953-54</i> <i>Per month</i>	
Male Shop Assistants	\$18-00	\$19-44	In respect of shops open for anytime between 7 a.m. & 5 p.m.
Female " "	\$15-00	\$16-20	
Male Shop Assistants	\$20-40	\$22-40	In respect of shops open for anytime between 7 a.m. & 9 p.m.
Female " "	\$16-80	\$18-14	
Outside the limits of the Town of Castries and one mile beyond.			
Male Shop Assistants	\$16-20	\$17-50	In respect of shops open for anytime between 7 a.m. & 5 p.m.
Female " "	\$13-50	\$14-58	
Male Shop Assistants	\$18-30	\$19-76	In respect of shops open for anytime between 7 a.m. & 9 p.m.
Female " "	\$15-00	\$16-20	

*Labour (Minimum Wage) (Agricultural Labourers) (Amendment)
Order No. 25 of 1953*

	<i>1952 per day</i>	<i>1953-54 per day</i>
Able bodied men	.84 cents	.90 cents
„ „ women	.62 cents	.66 cents
Male Juvenile 16-18	.56 cents	.59 cents
Female „ „	.44 cents	.47 cents

Wage rates on the cocoa and coconut estates, which had been increased by the owners in 1952, remained unchanged during the years under review and were as follows:

Able bodied male	\$1.00 per day
Able bodied female	.84 cents per day

The Seamen and Waterfront Workers' Union in negotiations with the Shipping and Mercantile Agents, secured increases effective from 23rd March, 1953, of 2 cents per hour on the wages of dockmen, 3 cents per hour on watchmen and 4 cents per hour on the wages of Tally Clerks.

Records of the average weekly earnings of workers and of overtime payments and bonuses are not available.

The law prescribes that agricultural workers shall work an eight-hour day for the basic wages and that extra remuneration at 50 per cent above basic rates shall be payable for extra work. This system has been extended to skilled workers and dockmen either by agreement or practice. A number of workers including watchmen and bakers are exempted, except for those watchmen employed by the Public Works Department. Efforts by a Union to bring these workers into line with others were in progress at the close of the period under review. In the case of sugar workers, however, where piece work predominates, there is no stipulation about the number of hours worked. In the sugar factories grinding is continuous except on Sundays during the harvest, under a system of three eight-hour shifts.

There is night work in the sugar industry during the harvesting season, and also in the baking industry.

Free housing is provided on the sugar estates for a number of workers who can be at the 'beck and call' of their employers. Some workers on mixed estates also receive free housing.

After 234 days of continuous employment in any one year, the workers of Public Works and Telephone Departments are entitled to seven days' holiday with pay. The law prescribes that in the sugar industry the qualifying period for seven days holiday with pay is 215 days work. Clerks employed with commercial firms and shop assistants are allowed two weeks annual holiday with pay as prescribed by law.

By agreement, dock workers and Public Works employees are allowed pay for two public holidays, viz. Good Friday and Christmas Day, whether they work on such days or not.

COST OF LIVING

The following figures show the monthly changes in the Cost of Living Index for 1953 and 1954 as compared with the basic year 1939. The index indicates living costs for working class families and covers food, clothing, rent, fuel, light, washing and household equipment and tools.

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
1939	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	100	102	104	105
1953	274	276	266	276	276	278	275	278	276	277	277	277
1954	275	275	272	272	272	272	272	272	272	271	271	271

Prices for the principal food stuffs in the years 1953 and 1954 were as follows:

	Cents per lb.	
	1953	1954
Beef . . .	28	32
Sugar (dark) . .	8½	8½
Fish (fresh) . .	14	18
Vegetables (green) .	10	12

LABOUR DEPARTMENT

The Labour Department occupies a Government building on the Reclamation Grounds which also houses the Social Welfare Department and the Executive Architect. This building, erected temporarily to accommodate three Government Offices after the 1948 conflagration, is on land which is intended to be left as an open space in accordance with the new Town Planning Scheme.

Duties of Staff

The Labour Ordinance enacted in 1938 established the post of Secretary for Labour and outlined the principal duties of this officer thus:

- (a) regularly to supervise and review the various forms of employment of labour which exist in the Colony;
- (b) to ensure the due enforcement of labour legislation in the Colony;
- (c) to bring to the notice of the Governor every matter or thing which is likely to be prejudicial to the welfare of any class of labour, or cause any disagreement between labourers and their employers;
- (d) to make recommendations to the Governor from time to time for the promoting of the general welfare of labourers.

The Labour Ordinance provides that the Secretary for Labour shall be *ex-officio* a Labour Inspector, and confers on him powers of entry into all places where work is proceeding. In addition he is the Chief Factory Inspector and exercises all the powers of this office which the Factories Ordinance confers.

The Assistant Labour Officer's specific duties are the collection and collation of statistical data and the compilation of the cost of living index figure. He assists in disposing of grievances between employer and employee and, in his capacity as a minimum wage inspector and enforcement officer under the Wages Council Ordinance, he assists in the inspection of places of employment. Since the advent of emigration programmes to the United States of America and Guadeloupe, the Assistant Labour Officer also helps with the recruiting formalities.

The Senior Clerk supervises the Clerical establishment, interviews applicants for employment and repatriated workers from the United States of America and Guadeloupe, and generally assists in all matters falling within the scope of the Department. The Senior Clerk is also an inspector and enforcement officer.

One Junior Clerk keeps the accounts of compulsory savings of workers in the United States of America and Guadeloupe. This particular duty consists of the receiving and converting United States and French currencies into British West Indies currency, and preparing vouchers for the payment of allotments to dependents and balances to workers on their return.

The Labour Department was represented on a number of Boards and Committees as follows:

Labour Advisory Board—The Labour Officer and his Assistant as Liaison Officer and Secretary respectively.

Labour Welfare Fund Committee—The Labour Officer, Chairman, the Senior Clerk, Secretary.

Prices Control Board—The Labour Officer as member.

Rent Restriction Board—The Labour Officer as member.

The Sugar Industry Wages Council—The Labour Officer was Secretary of this Council in 1953.

The Works Committee of the Public Works Department—The Senior Clerk as Secretary.

Prices of Farmers' Canes Committee—The Senior Clerk as Secretary.

During the period of tension in the sugar valleys in 1953 daily visits were paid to those areas during the crop seasons and visits were also paid at frequent intervals during the out of crop season.

One hundred and twenty business places were inspected during the period under review. These inspections continue to reveal breaches of the labour laws as follows:

- (1) Shop Assistants being paid at less than the prescribed minimum;
- (2) Assistants being employed for periods in excess of the total permissible weekly hours of work;
- (3) Carelessness on the part of the management in granting annual leave with pay;
- (4) Failure of the owners to keep records;
- (5) Failure to grant the prescribed time-off for meals.

Employment Exchanges

The Labour Department functions as a Labour Bureau and was of considerable service to workers and employers alike during the reconstruction of Castries; all workers required were engaged through the Department.

In 1953, in view of the considerable unemployment in two of the sugar valleys and the necessity to provide relief work, the Labour Department was entrusted with the task of rotating monthly work among the jobless in those areas.

In normal times, however, only small numbers secure jobs through the Bureau. Private employers and Government Departments select workers from among the many who present themselves on the spot whenever a vacancy occurs.

INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS

Trade Unions

During the period under review there were six Unions registered under the Trade Unions and Trade Disputes Ordinance No. 4 of 1948.

Of these, the St. Lucia Workers' Co-operative Union and the United Workers' Union aim at having as members workers of every kind. The St. Lucia Seamen and Waterfront Workers' Union, as its name suggests, caters for the individual needs of dockworkers and seamen. The Civil Service Association and the Teachers' Union serve the needs of civil servants and teachers respectively. The Roseau Peasants' and Workers' Union which aimed at recruiting its membership mainly from the sugar areas and was formed and registered in 1952, was struck off the Register in 1954 on being declared no longer to exist.

It is of interest to note that an older sister Union was in existence at the time of the formation of the United Workers' Union and that jurisdictional issues involving rival sister Unions of which this Colony had heard, but which it had not yet experienced, became a real possibility.

The Vieux-Fort Seamen and Dock Workers' Association which was registered on 5th November, 1954, caters for all workers in any marine calling, trade or vocation.

Joint Consultation and Wage Fixing Methods

Permanent machinery to enable workers and management to meet together for the discussion of matters of mutual interest, which was first established in the latter months of 1951, continued to exist. Joint consultation bodies were established for the following essential services:

1. Water and Electricity services operated by the Castries Town Board;
2. Health, Hospital and Sanitary Services;
3. Telephone Service and Public Works Department workers.

A Works Council for workers engaged in the reconstruction of Castries also continued its existence.

In accordance with a recommendation of the Commission of Enquiry, Works Committees composed of equal number of workers' and employers' representatives were established in each of the three sugar estates and factories. There were indications that these Committees would contribute to better relations in the sugar industry in the future.

There have been no developments in wage fixing machinery since the 1951-52 report.

Trade Disputes

On 17th June, 1954, Corpus Christi Day and a public holiday, the female banana carriers employed by Messrs. Antilles Products walked out on strike. They demanded an increase on the normal rates as the day was a holiday. The Workers' Co-operative Union officials were summoned both by the employers and employees. It was finally agreed to pay the carriers 2 cents per bunch on that day instead of 1 cent, and that negotiations would be entered upon between Antilles Products and the Union concerning wage rates and conditions of service of the women carriers.

On 24th June, however, the Shipping Agents representing Antilles Products entered upon negotiations with the Seamen and Waterfront Workers' Union regarding wage rates and conditions of service of women carriers. The negotiations terminated on 25th June and the following rates were agreed:

- 2 cents per bunch on all working days irrespective of the hour;
- 2½ cents per bunch on Sundays and holidays irrespective of the hour.

On 28th June banana carrying was done by women recruited by the Seamen Union Officials and members of the Co-operative Workers' Union marched down to the wharf in protest. The banana carriers who had gone on strike on Corpus Christi Day and who refused to be en-

rolled in the Seamen's Union, continued to picket the wharf on every occasion that shipments of bananas had to be made. There were a few small incidents when angry jobless women clashed with the Police.

As the result of these developments, relations between the Co-operative Workers' Union and the Seamen & Waterfront Workers' Union became exceedingly strained; as the breach widened, in fact, the situation assumed the proportions of a jurisdictional dispute. During the many meetings held to resolve the issue, the Co-operative Workers' Union, with great foresight, displayed a spirit of forbearance and of good trade unionism. The Seamen & Waterfront Workers' Union, on the other hand, claimed that they "bossed" the waterfront and therefore could not and would not allow any other Union to operate there. This attitude, however, was not conceived until outside influence exerted pressure on the Seamen & Waterfront Workers' Union to keep the Co-operative Workers' Union out of the water front. The Co-operative Workers' Union appealed to the Labour Officer to intervene, but at the meeting held under his Chairmanship the President of the Seamen and Waterfront Workers' Union and his five-man delegation staged a walk out.

The Co-operative Workers' Union appealed to CADORIT* and the Chairman and Secretary of this organisation flew to St. Lucia in an effort to settle the issue. Their attempts proved abortive; in fact, the proceedings were of such a nature that the Chairman in his press release stated "we regret that the issue was not settled and feel sure that the leaders of the Seamen & Waterfront Workers' Union will live to regret their attitude." The Labour Advisory Board held an emergency meeting in an effort to determine the issue and although it was agreed that the matter of employing carriers should return to the *status quo ante*, at the next shipment none of the carriers who went on strike was offered employment.

With new elections at the Annual Conference of the Seamen & Waterfront Workers' Union tension lessened somewhat and a new working arrangement was agreed. The position at the end of 1954 was that the shippers issued 50 per cent of the tickets to the Co-operative Workers' Union for distribution among its members and reserved the other 50 per cent to issue to persons of their choice.

Labour Legislation

During the years reviewed the following labour legislation was enacted:

The Wages Council Order S.R. & O. No. 16 of 1953.

The Wages Council (Wages Regulation Proposals and Orders) Posting Regulations No. 7 of 1953.

The Agricultural Industry (Prices of Canes) Ordinance No. 2 of 1953.

The Labour (Minimum Wage) (Shop Assistants) Amendment Order S.R. & O. No. 24 of 1953.

The Labour (Minimum Wage) (Agricultural Labourers) Amendment Order S.R. & O. No. 25 of 1953.

*The Caribbean Wing of the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions.

The Agricultural Industry (Prices of Canes) (Amendment) Order No. 20 of 1953.

Safety, Health and Welfare

Greater attention was paid to the provisions relating to health and welfare of factory workers. The establishment of Works Committees in each of the sugar factories tended to stimulate more attention to the needs of the workers.

One fatal accident arising out of and in the course of employment was reported during the period under review.

The following table shows the number and nature of the accidents reported to the Labour Department during 1953 and 1954 and the amounts paid in compensation.

	<i>Nature of accidents</i>	<i>No. of accidents</i>	<i>Compensation</i>
1953	Temporary Disablement	40	\$886-37
1953	Fatal	1	\$696-00
1954	Temporary Disablement	22	\$391-69

By the end of the period under review the Labour Welfare Fund Committee, which derives its income from a cess imposed on sugar exported, had completed the construction of 12 housing units (11 one bed-room and one two bed-room) for the accommodation of sugar workers. A Community Centre was also erected to assist in the education of workers in the area and to provide facilities for recreation.

The housing units are prototypes of those which the Committee expects will be built on an aided self-help basis, and were built from landcrete blocks and covered with native shingles. Construction of roads and landscaping of the area were proceeding at the end of 1953.

Industrial Training

In 1953 two youths from primary schools were accepted as apprentices by the Public Works Department on the recommendation of the Education Officer. It was arranged that they would receive allowances at rates not less than those paid to pupil teachers. During the same year a number of senior girls from primary schools continued to receive three months practical training in infant care at a day nursery. Training in agriculture was provided by the Agricultural Department for ten primary school boys.

An apprenticeship scheme recommended by an *ad hoc* Committee appointed by the Governor has been deferred until the Colony's finances improve. Meanwhile many youths continue to secure apprenticeships in the sugar factories, printing works, garages and with skilled workmen in the building and clothing trades.

The Recording Secretary of the St. Lucia Workers' Co-operative Union and the Secretary of the Seamen & Waterfront Workers' Union attended a Trade Union Training Course in Barbados designed for Union Officials in the British Caribbean. This course, which lasted three months, was made possible by the Development and Welfare Organisation in the West Indies.

Chapter 3: Public Finance and Taxation

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE

The main heads of revenue and expenditure in 1951, 1952, 1953 and 1954 were as follows:

	REVENUE			
	1954	1953	1952	1951
	\$	\$	\$	\$
Import Duties	937,609	796,844	970,153	964,570
Export Duties	208,739	200,576	153,078	103,837
Excise Duties	243,830	228,850	230,344	237,011
Other Duties	28,826	39,073	20,542	29,791
Licences	37,541	35,573	36,576	32,177
Taxes	570,148	436,659	456,334	321,503
Harbour Dues	45,293	34,784	33,395	40,999
Other Fees of Administration	477,403	248,634	257,508	346,321
Post Office	175,536	72,120	61,526	101,868
Electricity, Telephones &c.	16,113	14,612	14,656	12,154
Rent and Interest	25,426	25,233	53,752	80,527
Repayments of Loans and Advances	607	1,301	2,364	261
Sale of Crown Lands	18,085	57,276	93,190	12,077
TOTAL LOCAL REVENUE	\$2,785,156	\$2,191,535	\$2,383,418	\$2,283,096
Colonial Development and Welfare	484,352	26,145	1,064,713	1,661,744
Imperial Grant-in-aid (Castries)	—	—	1,188,615	512,071
Imperial Grant-in-aid	—	475,140	—	—
Imperial Grant-in-aid of Administration	692,436	858,135	631,030	—
TOTAL REVENUE	\$3,961,944	\$3,550,955	\$5,267,776	\$4,456,911

	EXPENDITURE			
	1954	1953	1952	1951
	\$	\$	\$	\$
Governor	18,469	13,406	11,925	11,542
Legislature	35,184	15,666	16,007	19,957
Administration	92,709	90,579	92,799	89,692
Accountant General	34,849	29,194	—	—
Agriculture	82,412	75,681	93,551	104,000
Audit	17,212	16,586	14,432	13,097
Central Housing Authority	25,417	—	522	11,824
Education	301,229	272,903	266,625	245,754
Judicial	26,584	23,924	26,417	22,902
Labour	15,233	11,089	13,341	10,968
Lands and Survey	24,817	25,119	27,062	27,384
Customs and Excise	47,582	32,810	—	—
Inland Revenue	25,970	27,011	—	—

PUBLIC FINANCE AND TAXATION

17

	1954	1953	1952	1951
	\$	\$	\$	\$
Legal	29,041	24,948	25,524	26,559
Loans and Advances	9,600	—	3,860	6,322
Medical	260,147	221,984	253,880	231,168
Miscellaneous	211,057	389,090	378,922	249,365
Pensions	104,907	88,921	77,597	87,483
Police	253,750	253,002	268,028	224,098
Port and Marine	28,162	28,319	26,480	26,045
Post Office	62,083	46,592	50,750	40,030
Prisons	44,396	44,938	44,698	40,236
Public Debt	312,397	198,157	124,022	146,305
Public Works	62,865	56,552	64,414	48,913
Public Works Annually Recurrent	258,815	349,419	287,454	280,815
Beane Field	18,498	21,344	—	—
Social Welfare	57,602	48,191	31,043	31,041
Subventions	161,332	126,043	66,852	70,517
Telephone	55,360	37,355	36,044	33,767
Public Library	—	—	5,910	4,345
Treasury	—	—	98,773	90,780
TOTAL ORDINARY EXPENDITURE . . .	\$2,677,679	\$2,572,833	\$2,406,932	\$2,194,909
Public Works Extraordinary	172,795	178,387	109,302	95,291
TOTAL LOCAL EXPENDITURE	\$2,850,474	\$2,751,220	\$2,516,234	\$2,290,200
Colonial Development and Welfare	832,982	154,245	956,430	1,527,824
Parliamentary Grant-in-aid	33	475,172	1,206,372	426,182
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	\$3,683,489	\$3,380,637	\$4,679,036	\$4,244,206

ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

<i>Liabilities</i>	1953	<i>Assets</i>	
	\$		\$
Special Funds	1,650,979·48	Advances	2,331,673·43
Towns & Villages	6,907·27	Castries Town Board	228,693·67
Deposits, Miscellaneous	65,950·46	Investments	950,222·14
Joint Colonial Fund	892,800·00	Post Office Account	23,377·17
Drafts & Remittances		Bank Deposits	55,768·83
Account	6,276·80	General and Revenue Balance Account	116,692·38
Castries Town Board	11,329·39		
Surplus Reserve Fund	456,000·00		
Cash—Overdraft	616,184·22		
	\$3,706,427·62		\$3,706,427·62
<i>Liabilities</i>	1954	<i>Assets</i>	
	\$		\$
Special Funds	1,919,192·38	Advances	2,355,050·69
Towns and Villages	16,234·12	Castries Town Board	167,661·52
Drafts & Remittances	6,328·69	Investments	1,331,291·44
Deposits, Miscellaneous	76,310·13	Post Office Account	16,320·91
Joint Colonial Fund	729,600·00	Bank Deposits	46,883·02
Surplus Reserve Fund	456,000·00	Towns and Villages	687·98
Cash—Overdraft	534,887·33		
General Revenue Balance Account	179,342·91		
	\$3,917,895·56		\$3,917,895·56

STATEMENT OF THE PUBLIC DEBT AT THE 31ST DECEMBER, 1954.

AMOUNT OF SINKING FUND

Description of Debt or Loan	Amount of Original Loan	When incurred and purpose	Amount Outstanding	Rate of Interest	Provision for Repayment and Legal Authority	Date Payable	Amount of Stock		Remarks
							Amount of Stock	Value of Stock	
Local Conversion Loan 1939	\$ 79,903.76	1939. For payment of 5% Local Loan Ordinance No. 62 of 1916 Revision. 5% Loan for Construction of Baron Wing Ordinance No. 3 of 1917. 5% Local Loan Ordinance No. 10 of 1918 Purchase Baron Asylum Ordinance No. 73 of 1916 Revision.	\$ 79,903.76	3½%	Ordinance No. 24 of 1938	1959	\$ 58,051.04	\$ 57,603.36	
Land Settlement Loan: Colonial Development and Welfare Scheme D.497	115,200.00	1945. For the purchase of Barbados Settlement Co. Land in the Vieux-Fort Area.	61,982.40	—	—	—	—	—	Loan free of interest in the first instance. Terms of repayment to be considered later. Original loan reduced by \$53,217.60 being cost of area "C" originally regarded as loan now converted into free grant.
Black Bay Estate Acquisition Loan. Colonial Development and Welfare Scheme D.376	47,136.00	1945. For the purchase of certain lands belonging to the Barbados Settlement Co.	36,839.64	3½%	—	1965	—	—	Loan free of interest for the first 5 years, then repayment by 15 equated annuities. No Statutory Authority.

STATEMENT OF THE PUBLIC DEBT AT 31ST DECEMBER, 1954—continued.

AMOUNT OF SINKING FUND

Description of Debt or Loan	Amount of Original Loan	When Incurred and purpose	Amount Outstanding	Rate of Interest	Provision for Repayment and Legal Authority	Date Payable	Amount of Stock	Value of Stock	Remarks
	\$		\$				\$	\$	
Castries Reconstruction Loan	1,958,400-00	1949. For re-lending to persons for private rebuilding whose houses were destroyed by fire on 19-20th June 1948. For sewerage and housing scheme for the town of Castries.	1,958,400-00	3½%	Ordinance No. 9 of 1949	1965-70	255,899-10	253,150-48	
Castries Reconstruction Loan	823,880-60	1953. For re-lending to persons for private rebuilding whose houses were destroyed by fire March, 1951.	823,880-60	3½%	Ordinances No. 9 of 1953 & No. 37 of 1954	1965-70			
Vide Boutelle Scheme Loan from Colonial Development and Welfare D.1212.	21,600-00	1949. For housing Vide Boutelle Area.	19,968-16	3%	—	—	2,460-06	2,578-18	Interest at 3% payable after 3 years.
Soufriere Hydro-Electric Scheme	280,119-40	1953. For the installation of the Soufriere Hydro-Electric Plant.	280,119-40	3½%	Ordinances No. 9 & 26 of 1953.	1965-70	—	—	
	<u>\$3,326,239-76</u>		<u>\$3,261,093-96</u>				<u>\$316,410-20</u>	<u>\$313,332-02</u>	

MAIN HEADS OF TAXATION

	1953	1954
	\$	\$
Import Duties . . .	788,172-00	931,029-00
Export Duties . . .	200,576-00	208,739-00
Excise Duty on Rum . .	222,158-00	227,855-00
Trade Duty on Spirits . .	—	—
Income Tax . . .	402,131-00	528,859-00
Succession Duty . . .	12,577-00	13,115-00
Rural House Tax . . .	29,665-00	32,047-00
Stamp Duty . . .	26,496-00	15,711-00

Import Duties

Ad Valorem and specific rates of duty are paid on imports of food, drink, and tobacco, raw materials and unmanufactured articles, and articles wholly or mainly manufactured. Specific rates are paid on animals not for food; bullion and specie are exempted.

The principal imports of food, drink and tobacco are beer and stout, grain (rice, flour, cornmeal and other cereals), preserves, milk, pickled meats, hams and bacon, tea, coffee, tobacco, cigarettes, edible fats, butter and lard. The main imports of raw materials and unmanufactured articles are leather and lumber; those of articles wholly or mainly manufactured are wearing apparel, cotton piece-goods, hardware, machinery, medicines, metals, paints and colours, and other manufactures of wood and timber.

The cost of goods for the purpose of ascertaining the amount of *ad valorem* duty payable is calculated on the price charged for the goods by the vendor and verified by the genuine invoice for such goods. The calculation is based upon all charges on such goods up to the time of their arrival in the Colony; if the goods have been procured otherwise than by *bonafide* purchase the *ad valorem* duty is calculated on the actual market value of such goods in the Colony at the time the goods are removed from bond.

Articles imported by or for the use of Her Majesty's Naval or Military Forces, the Police Force, Girl Guide and Boy Scout Associations, the Colonial Government, the Governor, municipal authorities, and several other articles listed under Ordinance No. 8 of 1940, for the purpose of encouraging trade and commerce, local agriculture and scientific investigation, are exempted from payment of import duty. A preference of approximately one-third is in many cases allowed on goods of Commonwealth origin. The margin of preference is fixed by agreement.

The Governor in Council may remit or authorise the exemption of import duty or refund in whole or in part any customs duty payable or paid by any person or on any goods not specified in the table of exemptions in the 1940 Ordinance.

Export Duties

Export duties are collected on exports from the Colony of which the main are charcoal, cocoa, coconuts and copra, firewood, fruit, honey,

lime products and sugar. Towards the end of 1954 an export duty was introduced on bananas.

In order to collect the duties export prices are fixed by an Export Prices Committee under the chairmanship of the Collector of Customs. The duty on all items except firewood and charcoal is on a sliding scale.

Excise Duties

Excise duty on spirits made in the Colony (rum) was charged at \$2.84 per proof gallon.

In 1951 and 1952 excise duty on sugar was levied at the rate of \$9.98 per ton on clear sugar manufactured and consumed in the Colony, but it was raised to \$15.03 per ton by Ordinance No. 1 of 1953.

The Governor in Council is empowered to remit the whole or any part of the duty payable if he is satisfied that it would be just and equitable to do so.

Income Tax

Income tax rates vary on a sliding scale from 12 cents on every \$4.80 of the first \$480 to \$3.12 on every \$4.80 above \$24,000. The tax upon the chargeable income of a company was charged at the rate of \$1.56 on every \$4.80 until 31st December, 1952, when it was raised to \$1.60. The rates are contained in Section 23 of the Income Tax Ordinance 1947, No. 8 of 1948, which came into operation on 1st January, 1948, and amending Ordinances No. 24 of 1949 and No. 18 of 1953.

TABULAR STATEMENT OF INCIDENCE OF TAX

Income Group	1953		1954	
	No. of Assessments	Tax Payable	No. of Assessments	Tax Payable
\$ 480.00— 960.00	660	\$ 2,414.00	719	\$ 2,323.00
964.80— 1,440.00	325	3,662.00	263	3,298.00
1,444.80— 1,920.00	164	3,730.00	181	4,483.00
1,924.80— 2,400.00	104	4,887.00	94	4,699.00
2,404.80— 2,880.00	51	4,373.00	60	3,936.00
2,884.80— 3,360.00	43	4,867.00	42	4,771.00
3,364.80— 3,840.00	29	4,229.00	33	5,285.00
3,844.80— 4,320.00	31	6,442.00	22	4,502.00
4,324.80— 4,800.00	16	4,637.00	17	5,030.00
4,804.80— 5,280.00	13	4,358.00	5	1,306.00
5,284.80— 5,720.00	25	14,415.00	20	8,309.00
6,720.80— 9,600.00	33	27,619.00	23	20,895.00
9,604.80—12,000.00	14	19,416.00	10	71,496.00
12,004.80—14,400.00	5	10,589.00	6	12,506.00
Over —14,400.00	8	30,763.00	7	30,970.00
Additional Assessments	48	4,959.00	20	571.00
Supplementary „	64	38,088.00	277	17,539.00
Companies	1,633	189,448.00	1,799	201,919.00
	54	38,088.00	67	382,891.00
	1,687	227,536.00	1,866	584,810.00

Estate Duty

Where death occurs within the Colony the person accountable for succession duty is required within three months after the death to deliver to the Treasurer a declaration of the value of the estate of the deceased; where death occurs outside the Colony, the period is six months. The Accountant General may under certain circumstances extend the period for a further three or six months in the respective cases referred to and further delays may be granted on application to the Judge.

Succession duty is collected on all estates in excess of \$480, but only half rate is payable in respect of successions passing to the wife, the mother or the lawful son or daughter of the deceased or the illegitimate son or daughter of a deceased mother.

Land and Rural House Tax

A land tax of 24 cents per acre or part thereof was introduced in 1951, and is mainly responsible for the increase in the yield under this head from \$6,527 in 1950 to \$27,036 in 1952. Taxes on houses situated outside the limits of any town or village are assessed on the annual rental value and range from \$1·80 on a house the annual value of which is over \$25·00 and does not exceed \$35·00, to \$6·72 on a house of a rental value of over \$80·00 and not exceeding \$100·00, and 7 per cent on a house the rental value of which exceeds \$100·00.

The assessment is made by the Tax Officer and payment can be enforced in a summary manner before the inferior courts.

Stamp Duties

Stamp duties are collected on most commercial instruments at a rate fixed under the Stamp Duty Ordinance.

Chapter 4: Currency and Banking

CURRENCY

The currency of the Colony is the West Indian dollar which is linked to sterling at the rate of \$4·80 to the £. Notes issued by the Eastern Caribbean Currency Board and United Kingdom coinage are legal tender. (The Board was to issue its own coinage in replacement of the United Kingdom coinage but no such issue had been made by the end of 1954).

BANKING

There are three banks operating in the Colony: Barclays Bank DCO, the St. Lucia Co-operative Bank Ltd., and the Government Savings Bank of which branches exist at Soufriere, Vieux-Fort, Dennery, Gros-Islet, Anse-la-Raye, and Micoud.

St. Lucia Co-operative Bank

The St. Lucia Co-operative Bank Ltd., was established in 1937 with an authorised capital of \$150,000. The bank declared a dividend of 8 per cent in 1953 and 1954. Statistics of deposits and loans were as follows:

<i>Year</i>	<i>No. of Depositors</i>	<i>Deposits</i>	<i>Withdrawals</i>	<i>Balance</i>
1950-51 . .	1,319	\$1,003,843.72	\$917,576.74	\$1,128,280.75
1951-52 . .	1,119	930,140.96	902,319.92	1,156,101.79
1952-53 . .	—	758,491.54	812,240.81	1,102,352.52
1953-54 . .	—	850,980.61	760,006.89	1,193,326.24

LOANS

<i>*Year</i>	<i>Loans Issued</i>	<i>Loans Repaid</i>	<i>Loans Outstanding</i>	<i>Interest Received</i>
1950-51 . .	\$607,538.89	\$400,612.03	\$962,331.74	\$51,971.01
1951-52 . .	628,999.05	494,149.38	1,097,183.41	60,172.49
1952-53 . .	450,147.60	535,816.80	1,011,514.21	62,994.37
1953-54 . .	482,821.91	468,006.25	976,269.87	63,306.04

*The Bank's financial year ends on 30th September.

Revenue for the year ended 30th September, 1954, amounted to \$71,035.84 and expenditure to \$41,592.72, leaving a gross profit of \$29,443.12.

Government Savings Bank

	<i>1953</i>	<i>1954</i>
No. of Depositors . .	n.a.	2,688
Amount Deposited . .	\$383,575.38	\$399,514.53

Exchange Rates

Commission rates charged by the Currency Authorities for the issue and redemption of notes were: one-half per cent plus the cost of any telegrams sent in connection with each transaction either by the Caribbean Currency Board or by the Crown Agents.

The following were the commercial banks' rates of exchange for telegraphic transfers:

<i>Selling</i>		<i>Buying</i>
\$4.83	per £1 sterling	\$4.77
\$173.2†	per U.S. \$100	\$171.2†
\$176.4†	per Canadian \$100	\$174.0†

† Rates fluctuated during the years, but these figures show the average position.

Chapter 5: Commerce

The value of total imports, total exports and re-exports (excluding bullion and specie) were as follows:

Year	Total Imports \$	Total Exports \$	Re-exports \$
1952 . . .	6,005,943	2,819,108	277,823
1953 . . .	5,257,006 (Est.)	3,438,296	298,434
1954 . . .	4,826,429 (Est.)	3,542,092	190,671

The principal imports and exports by quantity and value are shown in the following tables:

PRINCIPAL IMPORTS

Unit	1952		1953		1954	
	Quantities	Value \$	Quantities	Value \$	Quantities	Value \$
Beer and Ale . . . gallons	8,327	21,199	7,145	18,208	15,692	42,479
Boots and Shoes . . . doz. pairs	5,401	169,825	6,524	175,082	6,521	180,149
Cement . . . barrels of 400lb.	16,697	156,911	11,581	104,010	9,089	63,165
Cotton Piece-Goods . . . sq. yards	681,591	354,522	621,694	285,308	696,432	310,846
Art Silk Piece-Goods . . . sq. yards	176,411	135,943	206,006	131,253	362,938	183,119
Flour . . . bags of 196lb.	41,511	708,541	26,221	471,990	31,111	541,884
Machinery—						
Agricultural . . . —	—	2,979	—	8,144	—	4,909
Sugar . . . —	—	122,901	—	84,380	—	80,984
Manures, Chemical . . . tons	525	55,206	922	102,571	1,015	128,750
Milk, condensed . . . lb.	108,742	41,462	118,313	40,672	176,311	47,345
Motor Cars . . . No.	49	98,105	48	88,673	61	121,453
Motor Trucks . . . No.	11	26,636	12	41,102	12	44,887
Motor Parts . . . —	—	38,010	—	31,776	—	24,680
Motor Tyres . . . —	—	65,972	—	41,573	—	57,805
Paints & Colours . . . lb.	134,231	52,621	57,493	22,487	108,897	46,867
Rice . . . lb.	1,047,139	99,764	1,354,141	142,311	1,885,956	203,942
Sacks and Bags . . . dozen	17,958	336,503	2,176	2,794	5,643	15,698
Soap, common . . . lb.	244,309	54,072	316,769	64,943	395,572	84,558
Spirits—Whisky . . . gallons	1,506	15,821	1,264	14,136	1,656	18,140
Brandy . . . "	356	3,229	438	3,823	391	3,680
Gin . . . "	406	3,064	457	3,523	623	4,792
Tea . . . lb.	8,283	7,592	6,618	6,962	8,526	9,955

PRINCIPAL EXPORTS

Unit	1952		1953		1954	
	Quantities	Value \$	Quantities	Value \$	Quantities	Value \$
Bananas . . . bunches	56,002	57,135	143,262	198,467	306,432	506,421
Cocoa . . . cwt.	8,151	391,884	5,686	296,569	4,032	321,903
Coconuts . . . No.	80,990	3,573	72,485	3,370	431,410	27,826
Coconut Oil . . . gallons	67,655	162,504	95,345	265,442	230,242	578,646
Copra . . . lb.	3,581,775	464,953	4,008,825	571,009	2,931,926	389,396
Cotton, Sea Island . . . "	11,828	11,828	6,032	5,549	—	—
Ginger . . . "	552	206	625	1,334	1,344	494
Honey . . . "	97,241	14,482	77,787	9,969	63,088	8,455
Lime Juice (raw) . . . gallons	29,636	18,419	17,530	17,769	4,087	2,193
Lime Oil . . . lb.	610	9,539	3,840	33,408	70	478
Limes (green) . . . barrels	52	370	72	623	38	444
Mace . . . lb.	2,008	2,074	2,070	995	1,917	1,380
Molasses . . . gallons	81,167	24,153	220,579	27,108	190,520	18,946
Nutmegs . . . lb.	20,530	10,374	14,111	3,975	16,468	5,580
Sugar . . . tons	7,538	1,257,032	8,712	1,598,431	7,301	1,309,899
Wood and Timber (unmanufactured) . . . cu. ft.	—	8,145	—	3,997	—	7,922

Sources

Sources	1952	1953	1954
	\$	(Estimated) \$	(Estimated) \$
United Kingdom	2,257,225	1,792,315	1,837,536
Canada	1,292,771	848,439	957,679
Other Commonwealth Countries	1,429,353	1,775,807	1,159,357
United States of America	544,961	540,231	466,283
Other Foreign Countries	481,183	300,214	405,594
TOTAL	\$6,005,493	\$5,257,006	\$4,826,429

Destinations

Destinations	Exports (excluding Ship's Stores)		
	1952	1953	1954
	\$	\$	\$
United Kingdom	1,718,774	2,144,530	2,197,531
Canada	30,409	63,281	22,219
Other Commonwealth Countries	813,499	1,059,623	990,506
United States of America	238,937	81,820	15,964
Other Foreign Countries	17,489	89,042	315,872
TOTAL	\$2,819,108	\$3,438,296	\$3,542,092

Price control was maintained on imported groceries, textiles, hardware, drugs, etc. All locally produced commodities, except beef, fish, sugar and the products of the bay rum industry, were decontrolled. Bulk purchase by the Government of rice, flour and coconut meal continued.

Chapter 6: Production*

LAND UTILISATION AND TENURE

Classification

*Acreage
Estimate
1954*

1. Total area including inland water bodies	152,320
2. " " excluding " " " "	150,350
3. Built on areas including roads and railways	1,000
4. Permanent wasteland	18,000
5. Unused but potentially productive area	19,705
6. Agricultural area	56,700
(a) Arable land and orchards	48,100
(i) Land Crops	21,000

* For further information, particularly on Agriculture, see *The Agricultural Development of St. Lucia*. Report of a Team of Experts on visit in March and April, 1951.

<i>Classification</i>		<i>Acreage Estimate 1954</i>
(ii) Orchards (area under fruit and nut trees, vines and fruit-bearing shrubs)	1,330	
(iii) Market and kitchen gardens	12,400	
(iv) Temporary meadows and pastures	1,920	
(v) Temporary fallow	11,450	
(b) Permanent meadows and Pastures	8,600	
7. Wood and Forest Lands		55,050
8. Other lands, i.e. Military Reserve		200

Land and Water Conservation

Soil conservation is practised on a small scale throughout the island, but there are no laws or regulations enforcing such practices. Most of the major forest areas are owned by the Crown and are protected as water reserves by the Forest, Soil and Water Conservation Ordinance No. 6 of 1945 and No. 18 of 1951. The Forestry Department regulates deforestation and afforestation throughout the island. Squatting on Crown Lands and destruction of forest trees are prohibited.

Land Ownership

Land in St. Lucia is divided into Crown and private lands.

Crown lands comprise forest reserves and other land. The sale of Crown lands was discontinued from 1st January, 1942, and a lease-hold system instituted under Ordinance No. 7 of 1945. It is not the policy, however, to lease or rent land in the Central Forest Reserve.

Approximately 127,000 acres are in private and approximately 25,000 acres in Government ownership.

Private freehold land is either cultivated by the owner or managed on his behalf or leased or rented (some of the estates and holdings belong to absentee landlords). The average period of a lease is five to ten years.

Cash rental and share cropping are common. Cash rental may be annual or bi-annual and ranges from \$2.40—\$10.00 per acre per annum. On the share cropping system the owners of the land generally demand one-third of the proceeds, the tenant bearing all the expenses for clearing and cultivation. Sometimes, however, the owner supplies part of the planting material. In very rare cases the tenant receives all the proceeds from the land on the agreement that he plants, on the land rented, such permanent crops as coconuts, cocoa and coffee.

Land Settlement

A successful method of land settlement has not yet been devised. The Team of Experts referred to above recommended two methods. These have been under consideration, but it was not expected that any substantial land settlement scheme could be implemented in the near future.

AGRICULTURE

In the absence of adequate data on domestic consumption, export figures are used from year to year as a guide to trends in local production. A summary of the principal agricultural exports from 1952 to 1954 is given on page 24.

The use of mechanical tillage, the application of fertilizers and the adoption of a system of intercropping have increased the yield of crop per acre. Worthy of note, too, is the success of the practice adopted by estate owners, whereby bananas have been established on coconut-growing land.

The Agricultural Development programme financed by Colonial Development and Welfare funds, provides for assistance to peasants in the development of their holdings. Funds have also been allocated under the same scheme for the distribution of planting material, at a nominal price, to estate owners and peasants.

Sugar†

Production had for several years been undertaken by three companies, Dennery Factory Co. Ltd., Cul-de-Sac Co. Ltd., and Roseau Co. Ltd. In 1953 the last two were liquidated; the following year a public company—Sugar Manufacturers Limited—took over the operations of these two units.

In 1953 the Government sponsored a programme for the expansion of sugar cane production by small cultivators. To this end two experienced agriculturists were appointed to assist in the organisation of a Cane Farmers' Association and to advise small producers generally. Nurseries were established for the multiplication of improved planting materials. A credit scheme for the supply of fertilizers was also inaugurated—a revolving fund of \$24,000 having been provided under a Colonial Development and Welfare Scheme for this purpose. Assistance was also given during the harvesting period with the organisation of transportation of small producers' canes to one of the factories.

For quantities and values of sugar exports in the period under review and in the previous year see page 24.

Coconuts and By-Products

The availability of whole nuts superfluous to the immediate requirements of the local oil processing factory, the accessibility to the United Kingdom market provided by ships calling fortnightly to load bananas, and the fact that the Colony's production of copra had become largely "surplus" resulted in an increase in the export of whole nuts during 1954. A drop in the export of copra, however, was due to increased production of oil locally.

The Coconut Growers' Association purchased a total of 5,411,840 lbs. of copra during 1953 and 6,294,400 lbs. during 1954.

† For greater detail on the sugar industry, see *Report of the Commission appointed by H.E. the Governor to enquire into the stoppage of work at the sugar factories in St. Lucia in March, 1952* Castries, 1952.

The destination of oil and by-products is shown below:

	Unit	1953	1954
Oil: Processed . . .	Imp. gals	147,305	262,545
Exported . . .	" "	95,345	230,242
Used locally . . .	" "	51,960	32,303
Meal: Processed . . .	lbs.	929,600	1,205,220
Exported . . .	" "	196,080	58,340
Used locally . . .	" "	723,520	1,146,880

Bananas

The successful revival of the banana industry was one of the primary agricultural features of 1953-1954.

The assurance of a ready market, together with the guidance of a producer organisation (The Banana Growers' Association, Ltd.), contributed to the expansion of the industry to a point where exports rose from 56,002 bunches in 1952 to 143,262 bunches in 1953 and 306,432 bunches in 1954.

With the assistance of Colonial Development and Welfare grants, nurseries have been established and an efficient spraying programme inaugurated to control the incidence of leaf spot (*Cercospora musae*). The spraying programme is supervised by the Banana Growers' Association which is given technical assistance by the Department of Agriculture.

The Association is also responsible for the management of a fertilizer loan scheme under which advances in the form of fertilizers are issued to members of the Association.

The total acreage under bananas is over 2,000 acres.

Cocoa

The continued high price for cocoa beans has maintained growers' interest in the crop. Demand for planting material remains high. The cocoa propagation programme, operating under a C.D. & W. grant, came to a close in December, 1953. The production of rooted cuttings had been initiated in July, 1950, and the total number produced up to the termination of the scheme was 133,490 of which 94,381 were distributed to growers, thus establishing some 175 acres of high-yielding cacao.

In line with the development plan for a general expansion of economically important crops, a new grant was approved at the end of March, 1954. Under this scheme, additional hardening and storage sheds, concrete propagators of the closed bin type, and two open spray beds have been constructed. A glass hardening house equipped with two centrifugal humidifiers has also been built for first stage hardening. These extended facilities allow for the production of 150,000 rooted cuttings annually.

The total number of plants distributed in 1954 was 47,949.

Exports of cocoa were 5,686 cwt. in 1953 and 4,032 cwt. in 1954.

Agricultural Department

The Agricultural Department is sub-divided into three main divisions: District and Extension, Animal Husbandry, and Forestry. The staff comprises:

- 1 Agricultural Superintendent
- 1 Veterinary Officer
- 1 Senior Mechanic
- 2 Agricultural Assistants
- 2 Senior Agricultural Instructors
- 1 Foreman Union Agricultural Station

Supplementary Staff provided from Colonial Development and Welfare Funds.

- 1 Assistant Agricultural Superintendent
- 1 Cane Farming Officer
- 1 Co-operatives Societies Officer
- 1 Senior Field Officer
- 1 Marketing Officer
- 1 Produce Inspector
- 2 Agricultural Assistants
- 12 Agricultural Instructors
- 2 Field Assistants
- 2 Cocoa Nurserymen
- 1 Laboratory Assistant.

The policy of the Department is:

- (a) to investigate and publicise better methods of land use, crop cultivation and livestock rearing;
- (b) to propagate and distribute improved varieties and strains of crops and livestock;
- (c) to evolve measures for the prevention, control and/or eradication of pests and disease of crops and livestock;
- (d) to regularise, maintain and improve forests and forest reserves and foster the controlled economic exploitation of timber.

ANIMAL HUSBANDRY

Livestock

The programme of upgrading indigenous stock by mating with imported pure bred sires has continued. A livestock improvement scheme has recently been instituted with a Colonial Development and Welfare grant, and in this connection, three pure-bred Guernsey bulls, two large Black Boars and five Large Black Gilt have been imported from the United Kingdom, from where one purebred Kentucky Jack was expected shortly. Plans were also afoot for keeping small breeding flocks of Barbados Black-belly sheep, British Alpine goats and various breeds of pure-bred poultry.

Increased interest has been evinced in the local production of ham, bacon and pork sausages and dairy products.

A feature of the period 1953-54 was the marked improvement in the quality and availability of local dairy products. Most of the production is in the hands of large estate owners, but recently a few enterprising peasant livestock owners in the Southern part of the island (Vieux-Fort) have established a dairy co-operative with the manufacture of

butter as the primary objective. They also contemplate utilising the skim milk by-product for the raising of pigs. This co-operative venture was being assisted by a Colonial Development and Welfare grant; it is closely associated with the general livestock improvement programme mentioned above.

Exports of livestock remain limited because of the continued ban on livestock importations imposed as a result of the outbreak of foot and mouth disease in Martinique in November, 1951.

There was one resident veterinary surgeon in the Colony but another had been recruited for the supervision of the livestock improvement programme.

FORESTRY

Timber cut and extracted in 1953 and 1954 was as follows:

	<i>Crown Forests (bd. ft.)</i>	<i>Private Forests (bd. ft.)</i>
1953	141,384	268,164
1954	275,623	308,076

Owing to the hilly nature of the country and lack of forest roads, extraction in the log was not possible and all trees were handsawn in the forests.

In late 1953, with the aid of a Colonial Development and Welfare grant and loan, a scheme was introduced for the development of the timber industry. Handsawn timber of more than a score of different hardwood species is purchased at the workshop in Castries. It is stacked for air-seasoning, and when dry is resawn to standard sizes, dressed and resold. This timber is in great demand locally and overseas, especially in some of the Caribbean islands which have not got an adequate supply of their own.

Imports of timber were as follows:

	<i>1953 (bd. ft.)</i>	<i>1954 (bd. ft.)</i>
Undressed	78,528	40,973
Dressed	32,268	40,454

CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES

At the end of 1954 there were the following Co-operative Societies:

- 1 Consumer Society (in process of dissolution)
 - 5 Credit Societies (Credit Unions) (two registered)
 - 1 Transport Society (registered)
 - 1 Beekeepers' Society (registered)
 - 1 Copra Processing Society (registered)
 - 1 Livestock Society (registered)
 - 1 Dairy Society (registered)
 - 3 Cocoa Producers' Societies
 - 1 Fishermen's Society
- } unregistered.

The share capital of these societies totalled \$24,816 and the membership 917.

In addition there were savings unions attached to various clubs and schools. Study groups met to consider various types of co-operative endeavour, including self-aided house building.

During 1953 and 1954 educational and propaganda work was intensified. Film shows were held all over the island with films loaned by the Central Office of Information, the Caribbean Commission, and the Co-operative Wholesale Society Ltd., of England. The Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations, in collaboration with the Caribbean Commission, offered scholarships whereby two voluntary co-operative workers were able to attend a Co-operative Workshop and Study course at the University of Puerto Rico. Both trainees benefited greatly from this course which included members from nearly the whole Caribbean area.

Credit Societies

The credit societies are based upon the credit union system of North America. Most of the capital is held in shares subscribed in instalments, which encourages thrift, and shares are withdrawable if due notice is given. There was a negligible number of withdrawals. Short-term loans are made to members only for productive or provident purposes, and most were for agriculture.

The proposals for implementing the 1951 *Report on the Agricultural Development of St. Lucia* (see page 25) made provision for agricultural credit, and for fostering producers' associations assisted by long-term credit where possible. Plans were finalised to assist societies with planting material, payment for which should be made when their crops came into production.

Fishermen's Society

The fishermen's society, though not registered, was of great benefit to the lobstermen of Vieux-Fort, who export their lobsters by air to Trinidad. This society was given a free grant of \$480 from Colonial Development and Welfare funds, and also a loan of \$2,400. The grant was used to construct a lobster pond for storing their catches.

Marketing

Following the recommendation in the 1951 agricultural development report that a Marketing Department be set up, provision was included in a Colonial Development and Welfare Scheme for the appointment of a Marketing Officer and three Assistants. The Marketing Officer was appointed in October, 1954. His duties entail the establishment and operation of a marketing organisation for the handling of locally grown food and cash crops, fruit and vegetables and the provision of advisory services to Producer Associations. No Marketing Assistants were appointed during the period under review.

Chapter 7: Social Services

EDUCATION

In 1953, there were 48 primary and two secondary schools receiving grants-in-aid from the Government, and one Government primary school. Of the 48 grant-in-aid primary schools, three were Anglican, three Methodist and 42 Roman Catholic. They had 14,505 children on the roll and an average attendance of 9,707. There were 21 private schools in the island with a teaching strength of 36 and an enrolment of 1,200.

A new Roman Catholic school capable of accommodating 300 pupils was erected at Babonneau.

The former building occupied by the Micoud Infant school has been converted into a two-storied building to house the primary school on the top floor and the infant school on the ground floor. The Desruisseaux building has been receiving attention, and much has been accomplished through the initiative and leadership of the manager in co-operation with the people of the district.

At Fond St. Jacques, Soufriere, a scheme to replace the old wooden building with a structure with permanent walls was in progress.

The congestion in the Castries Anglican Primary School was considerably relieved by the acquisition of an annexe capable of accommodating 100 pupils.

The Government made a grant of \$3,565 towards the cost of construction and repairs of buildings during 1953 and 1954.

Primary

In 1953, \$276,872 was spent from Colony funds on primary education, and it was estimated that in 1954, \$301,229 was spent excluding the expenses of the Education Department.

In 1953, there were 371 primary school teachers of whom, 153 held local certificates of competency (22 being trained), 105 were uncertificated, and 113 were pupil teachers. In 1954, 156 held local certificates for competency (22 being trained), 121 were uncertificated and 104 were pupil teachers.

During 1953 and 1954, a team of supervising teachers, under the guidance of the Education Department, was responsible for training pupil teachers and probational assistants. In addition, during the December 1953 and 1954 vacations, the supervising teachers gave lectures to a group of certificated assistants preparing for the Associate of the College of Preceptors Examination. The usual vacation course for head and certificated teachers was held during August 1953 and 1954.

Two teachers entered Erdiston Training College, Barbados, in September, 1954, on a two-year course.



A Street in Castries



Government Offices, Castries



Harvesting Sugar Cane



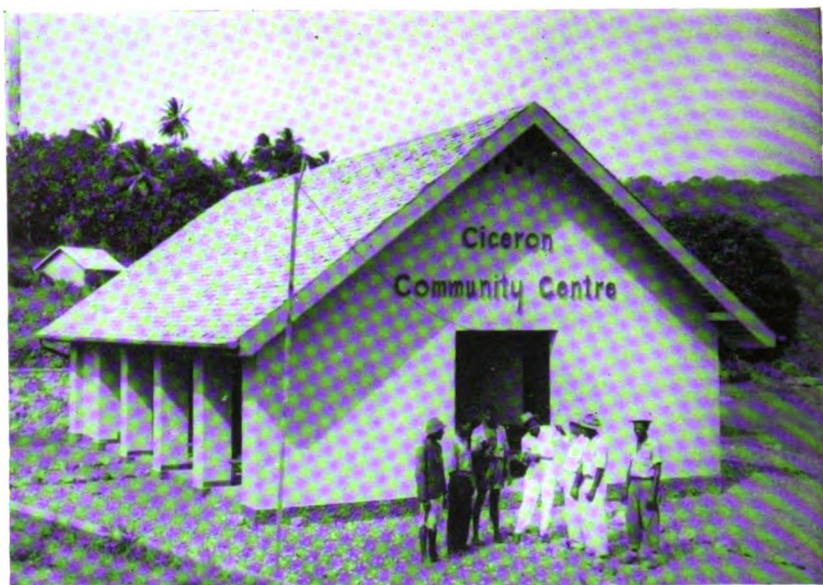
A Cacao-Humidifier Building



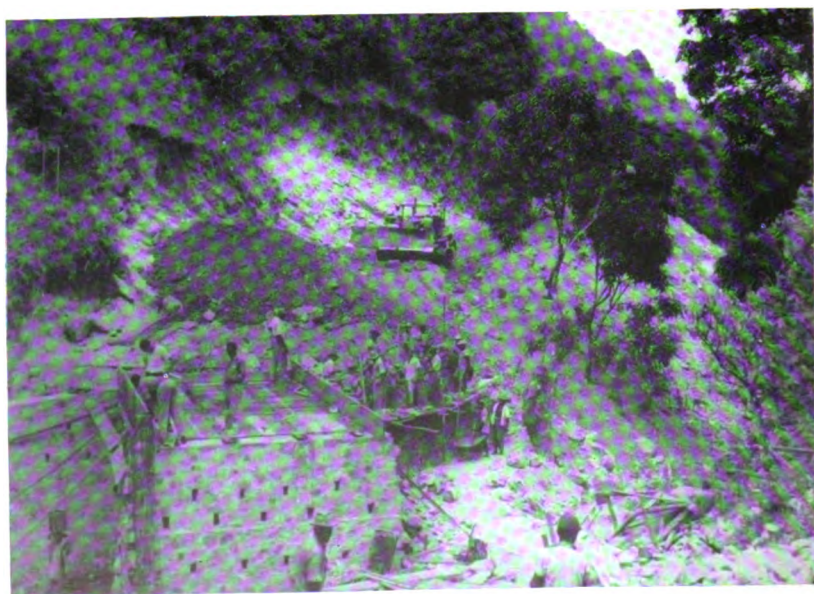
Spraying Bananas



Loading Bananas for Shipment to the United Kingdom



A Community Centre for Sugar Workers



Road Construction Operations

Secondary

St. Mary's College, a Roman Catholic Boys' Secondary School had an enrolment of 280 during 1953, and received a grant-in-aid of \$14,000 in 1953 and in 1954. St. Joseph's Convent, a Roman Catholic Girl's Secondary School, had an enrolment of 349 in 1953 and received a grant-in-aid of \$6,060 in 1953 and in 1954.

The Headmaster and three members of the senior staff of the College are Brothers of the Presentation Order, Cork, Eire. They are all university graduates and also hold diplomas in education. The junior staff consisted of non-graduate laymen, but the salary scales have been devised in such a way as to encourage them to read for external degrees of the University of London.

Science is being taught and is regularly taken as a subject in the Cambridge examinations.

The question of strengthening the staffs of both secondary schools by making provision for more graduate teachers was discussed by the Hadley Survey Committee which made recommendations.

Visual Education and Music

Films were shown to the pupils of Castries schools on Empire Day, 1953 and 1954. The Public Relations Department and the Co-operative Officer were responsible for shows held in areas outside Castries.

The Extra-Mural Department of the University College of the West Indies illustrated many lectures with film strips.

In 1953 and 1954, the St. Lucia Police Bandmaster visited schools and submitted reports on the standard of singing. He also gave instruction in the elementary rudiments of music at various teacher-training courses.

Adult Education

During 1953 and 1954, the Extra-Mural Department of the University College of the West Indies was mainly responsible for the organisation of adult classes in the island. These were conducted in Castries, Soufriere, Gros-Islet and Micoud, and included Art, Current and West Indian Affairs, Drawing, Economics, English, French, Music and Educational Psychology. For 1953 the total number of class periods was 197, and the aggregate attendance was 1,675. In the year ending August, 1954, the number of classes was 253 and the aggregate attendance 2,084.

Reports from teachers who formerly conducted night classes for adults indicated that the interest had waned considerably, and there was much justification for the request that a suitable officer should be appointed to organise this important branch of education.

In August, 1954, a delegate from St. Lucia attended the Conference of the Caribbean Union of Teachers in Grenada.

PUBLIC HEALTH

The Medical Services are administered by a Senior Medical Officer, who is also the Medical Officer of Health. The Island is divided into six districts each of which should have a resident medical officer; owing, however, to shortage of staff only four district medical officers were

available during 1953 and 1954. There is one large hospital of 112 beds under the charge of a Surgeon assisted by a Resident Medical Officer, but for the greater part of the period under review the latter post was vacant. This hospital deals with all the major and most of the minor surgery of the island and also with all the more serious obstetrical and medical cases. Three of the out-districts are provided with small hospitals with accommodation as follows:

	<i>Beds</i>
Soufriere . . .	20
Vieux-Fort . . .	22
Dennery . . .	14

The Dennery hospital was completely rebuilt during 1953 and 1954 and the new hospital was officially opened in December, 1954. A new health centre at Gros-Islet was also opened.

The auxiliary services consist of the following:

1. *Sanitation Department.* under a Senior Inspector with a staff of nine Sanitary Inspectors, six of whom possess the Royal Sanitary Institute (R.S.I.) certificate, while a seventh holds the Jamaica Sanitary Inspectors Certificate. Under the Colonial Development and Welfare West Indies Training Scheme one Sanitary Inspector was sent for training in Jamaica in 1953-54 and another, who already had the certificate, was sent for training in Meat and Food Inspection. Both these officers were successful in their examinations.

2. *Public Health Engineering Unit.* under the charge of an Engineering Assistant. Funds amounting to approximately \$23,000 per annum are provided for this Unit under a Colonial Development and Welfare Scheme. The Unit's activities are largely directed towards anti-malarial works, particularly drainage, and to Sanitary Engineering.

3. *Health Visitors Service.* under the charge of a lady Health Visitor with two Public Health Nurses, all of whom hold the R.S.I. Health Visitor's certificate. Both the Public Health Nurses were trained in Jamaica, funds being provided from the Colonial Development and Welfare West Indies Training Scheme; this scheme also provided the funds for sending the Lady Health Visitor to Britain in 1954 for a tutor's training course.

4. *Dental Service.* provided by one Dental Surgeon. Clinics are held daily in Castries and monthly or quarterly in the out-districts. In addition school children are regularly checked by the Dental Surgeon.

5. *Mosquito Control Service.* In 1953 with assistance from W.H.O., UNICEF, and Colonial Development and Welfare funds which provided \$9,145 in 1953 and \$10,325 in 1954, an insect control campaign was started with the object of eradicating the *Aedes aegypti* mosquito and controlling the incidence of malaria. The over-all *Aedes* index fell from 15.0 per cent before operations began in 1953 to 0.14 per cent at the end of 1954. During the same period, spleen and parasite rates fell from 6.2 per cent and 7.3 per cent to 1.6 per cent and 0.8 per cent.

Health centres are provided in the 15 most populous areas. At each of the small hospitals there are two resident nurses and the other stations are each provided with one resident District Nurse. Out-patient treatment is provided daily at the four large centres of Castries, Soufriere, Vieux-Fort and Dennery, and weekly at the smaller stations. Provision is also made at these stations for ante-natal, child-welfare, venereal disease and dental clinics.

Up to 1953 registration of nurses was dependent only on their passing an examination in midwifery, an examination which could be taken after only 12 months' training in hospital. From 1953, nurses have been required to undergo four years' training in general nursing and to pass an examination in this subject; if successful, they may take an examination in midwifery after a further 12 months' training.

Vital Statistics

The population of the island is estimated by the Registrar to have been:

1952	.	.	82,958
1953	.	.	84,812
1954	.	.	86,219

The following are some of the important vital statistics:

	1952	1953	1954
No. of deaths registered	1,246	1,156	1,028
Death rate	15.2	13.8	11.9
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 births	118.0	113.1	101.3
Birth rate per 1,000	35.2	36.5	36.1

The number of deaths in 1954 was the smallest recorded for six years.

Major Diseases

There has been a sharp fall in the incidence of malaria (see also under Mosquito Control Service, above).

Tuberculosis of the respiratory system is common. Plans were being made for the provision of a Tuberculosis Hospital, and it was expected that this would come into operation in 1956.

Enteric fever is endemic but seldom reaches epidemic proportions. Treatment with chloramphenicol has very considerably reduced the mortality from this disease.

Helminthic diseases and ulcers are a common source of morbidity in children; malnutrition in infants is frequently seen.

Venereal disease, and in particular gonorrhoea, are very prevalent. The incidence does not appear to be decreasing in spite of more and better treatment facilities.

HOUSING AND TOWN PLANNING

Vide Bouteille Housing Scheme. In 1953 work commenced on the last of the main roads and on the laying down of the piped water supply. The former was completed early in 1954 and some footpaths were put

under construction. The laying down of the pipe-borne water supply on certain routes was completed, as was street lighting on most of the main roads.

Castries Reconstruction. July 1953 saw the physical end of Castries Reconstruction, with the exception of the postponed works and further private rebuilding. Expenses had amounted to some \$10,000,000 (£2,083,330) from all sources spread over four years. As regards private rebuilding, the raising of the second instalment of the Castries Reconstruction Loan for private rebuilding made it possible for some of the gaps remaining in the new town to be filled in during 1954.

The work which the Castries Town Board has done on extending water and electricity services within and without the town, both as part of its own programme and as an agency, has been greatly appreciated. In 1954 the Board completed the last phase of the Water Supply Extension and Improvement Scheme and the Board also undertook the laying of the water mains at Vide Bouteille already referred to. The Board also extended street lighting to certain suburbs with financial assistance from the Government. The streets of the reconstructed area were formally vested in the Board, which will undertake the modifications and improvement of certain parts of the street drainage system.

The Castries Town Board agreed to operate that part of the Castries Sewerage System which exists, on a caretaker basis, and Her Majesty's Government has agreed to provide the finance necessary for its completion, subject to agreement being reached on the question of the maximum rate which the Board should be allowed to impose.

During 1954 the electric power installations at Soufriere were vested in the South Western Electricity Board, and the Board was thus placed to deal with the problems of establishing a proper system of management and operation.

With a view to speeding up implementations of their Aided Self-Help Housing Scheme, the Sugar Labour Welfare Fund, which finances the Scheme, appointed a full-time Secretary and Executive Officer, on secondment from the P.W.D. Considerable progress was made during the year, and as a result 1955 should see much of this important scheme translated into bricks and mortar in several parts of the sugar valleys, and also the occupation of the houses which form the pilot project at Ciceron.

The Executive Architect, who also serves the other three Windward Islands, continued to be based on St. Lucia. The post is financed from Colonial Development and Welfare funds.

SOCIAL WELFARE

Social welfare work is undertaken both by official and voluntary organisations. The Social Welfare Department created in 1946 was renamed the Public Relations and Social Welfare Department in 1951 as it had been handling information work since 1948. The Public Relations and Social Welfare Officer advises government on all welfare matters. He also administers public assistance and probation services and acts as

liaison officer between government and voluntary organisations. The staff of the Public Relations and Social Welfare Department comprised the Public Relations and Social Welfare Officer, a part-time Relieving Officer, a Junior Clerk and a Messenger.

Youth Organisations. There are several youth clubs in the Colony and these are greatly encouraged and assisted by the Public Relations and Social Welfare Department. Most clubs suffer from lack of leadership, but the teachers in the rural areas have helped greatly by acting as leaders until they can be replaced by club members.

The Boy Scouts and Girl Guides have been very active throughout the Colony.

The Junior Red Cross Branch has made great progress and there were branches in Castries, Soufriere and Choiseul.

Voluntary Organisations. The St. Vincent de Paul Society and Ladies of Charity continued to do good work among the poor. In 1953 the St. Vincent de Paul Society acquired, from funds donated by Rev. Father Floisaac, a new home for the poor to accommodate 22 males. A new building to house 100 females is under construction. Both these homes are run by the Roman Catholic Church but cater for all denominations.

The British Red Cross Society has been very active and pays special attention to the welfare of the inmates of the Mental Hospital, Leprosarium and the Home for the Aged and Infirm.

Relief. The Public Relations and Social Welfare Department is responsible for the relief of the aged, the infirm and children under the age of 14 years who are destitute. The number of persons who received outdoor relief and the amounts spent in 1953 and 1954 were as follows:

<i>Year</i>	<i>No. of Cases</i>	<i>Amount</i>
1953	1,129	\$16,770
1954	1,145	\$18,250

Assistance is given either as outdoor relief or by maintenance in the Home for the Aged and Infirm which in 1953 and 1954 was managed by the Public Relations and Social Welfare Department. An average of 140 inmates was maintained at the Home at the cost of \$18,995 in 1953 and \$24,149 in 1954.

There was no old age pension scheme but 69 Friendly Societies provided their members with sick, burial and death benefits.

Juvenile Delinquency. There was an increase in the number of cases coming before the Juvenile Courts. The statistics of juveniles convicted are given in Chapter 9.

In 1951 a Committee was appointed to consider the special problem of juvenile delinquency and to make recommendations. The Public Relations and Social Welfare Department ran a Boys' Club for juvenile delinquents in the Castries area, where carpentry and other trades are taught.

Chapter 8: Legislation

There were 57 Ordinances and 44 Statutory Rules and Orders passed during 1953 and 37 Ordinances and 55 Statutory Rules and Orders during 1954.

Of the Ordinances passed in 1953, 38 were amending Ordinances and of the others the Wireless Telegraphy Ordinance, the Deportation (British Subjects) Ordinance, the Adoption Ordinance and the St. Lucia Banana Growers Association Ordinance were the most important.

The Wireless Telegraphy Ordinance regulates the use in the colony of all forms of Wireless Apparatus, provides for the appointment of a Wireless Officer for the purposes of the Ordinance, and establishes a system of licensing for the sale and use of wireless apparatus as well as penalties for contravention of the provisions of the Ordinance,

The Deportation (British Subjects) Ordinance regulates the deportation of undesirable British Subjects. This Ordinance empowers the Governor in Council to make a deportation Order against prohibited immigrants, undesirable persons, destitute persons and any person who has been convicted by a Court of Law and recommended for deportation by such court. The Governor in Council is also given power to make Restriction Orders and Security Orders, and it is required that a report of all orders made under the Ordinance be sent forthwith to the Secretary of State. Except where a Court has itself first recommended deportation, no deportation Order, restriction order, or security order, may be so made except where a Judge has, in keeping with the procedure laid down in the Ordinance, heard and reported to the Governor in Council in the Case.

The Adoption Ordinance empowers the Supreme Court to make adoption orders upon the application of fit and proper persons domiciled in the Colony. No such order may be made in respect of an infant female in favour of a sole applicant who is a male, except in special circumstances. Upon an adoption order being made, an order of affiliation in respect of the same child ceases to have effect, but without prejudice to arrears due. Provision is made for the establishment of an Adopted Children Register and certified copy of its entries are evidence of the adoption to which it relates.

The St. Lucia Banana Growers Association Ordinance seeks to assist in stabilising the expanding banana industry and to give additional statutory authority to the St. Lucia Banana Growers' Association Limited which is registered as a public company under the provisions of the Commercial Code of St. Lucia. The Ordinance regulates the registration of growers as members of the Association and constitutes the Association the sole exporter of bananas.

1954

Of the 37 Ordinances passed in 1954, 21 were amending Ordinances. Of the others the most important were the Cane Farmers Association Ordinance, the Immigration Ordinance, the Banana Growers Loan Ordinance and the Praedial Larceny Ordinance.

The Cane Farmers Association Ordinance makes provision for the establishment of the St. Lucia Cane Farmers Association as a body corporate to promote the interests of cane farmers who constitute a category of growing importance in the sugar industry. The Ordinance regulates the qualifications for membership, the management of the Association, and provides for financial supervision of the Association's affairs by Government and the levy of a cess.

The Immigration Ordinance amends and consolidates the previously existing law relating to immigration, but it does not affect the continued operation of the Undesirable Persons Expulsion Ordinance 1921 or the Deportation (British Subjects) Ordinance, 1953. The Ordinance constitutes the Superintendent of Police as the Chief Immigration Officer, and declares what persons are and are not prohibited immigrants. Prohibited immigrants are persons without visible means of support or likely to become a charge on public funds, lepers, prostitutes, persons suffering from certain communicable diseases, aliens trading as pedlars and any member of a class or a person declared by the Governor in Council to be prohibited, as well as children of such prohibited immigrants. Magistrates are empowered to make removal orders for prohibited immigrants and from such decision there is a right of appeal to the Court of Appeal.

The Banana Growers Loan Ordinance makes provision for the Governor to authorise loans out of the public funds to assist banana growers. The monies so advanced with interest thereon constituted a first lien and charge on the crops of the borrower. The Banana Association acts as an agent for the repayment of the loan.

The Praedial Larceny Ordinance seeks to provide a more effective remedy to deal with the theft of agricultural produce, which has been on the increase in recent years. The penalty for offences under this Ordinance is a fine of \$140 or imprisonment for a term not exceeding 12 months with or without hard labour on summary conviction. The Court is also given power under the Ordinance to order a period of not more than one year's special police supervision either in lieu of or in addition to other penalty.

Chapter 9: Justice, Police and Prisons

JUSTICE

It is convenient to begin a review of the law of St. Lucia from the capitulation of the island to General Grinfield on 22nd June, 1803, and the assurance to the inhabitants by Proclamation that they should continue in the enjoyment of their rights in accordance with the laws which existed immediately prior to the cession. The proclamation of 1803, therefore, continued the law and ordinances of the French monarchy as the law of the Colony, at least in civil matters.

In 1876 owing to uncertainty concerning the law in civil matters, the Civil Code Ordinance was passed and by 1879 the Civil Code and Code of Civil Procedure were produced, based on the ancient law of the island with such amendments as the circumstances of the time required.

Broadly speaking, the law relating to commercial matters is based on principles of English law. The Code was compiled in 1916; it follows faithfully the lines of existing English statutes, and in that year also statutes of St. Lucia were revised and collected into two volumes called *The Revised Ordinances of St. Lucia, 1916*. Subordinate legislation was collected in a separate volume called *Revised Rules and Orders, 1916*. It was not till 1920 that the Criminal Code (*Law and Procedure*) made its appearance.

Since 1916 new laws, whether by way of amendment to the codes or otherwise, have been published in annual volumes of the *Ordinances and Statutory Rules and Orders of St. Lucia*.

For the administration of justice the island has been divided into three Judicial Districts. The District Courts of Judicature are presided over by Magistrates who exercise a summary jurisdiction in civil and criminal matters.

The present Superior Court was constituted by the Leeward Islands and Windward Islands (Courts) Order in Council, 1939, what was formerly the Royal Court becoming a circuit of the Supreme Court of the Windward Islands and Leeward Islands. The Court has unlimited original jurisdiction in all civil or criminal matters, and Admiralty jurisdiction within the meaning and intent of the Colonial Courts of Admiralty Act, 1890, and an appellate jurisdiction over the District Courts. In civil matters which are exclusively assigned to the District Courts, the Supreme Court has no original jurisdiction.

The Windward Islands and Leeward Islands Court of Appeal hears appeals from the Supreme Court in civil and criminal matters in accordance with the rules contained in *Statutory Rules and Orders 67 of 1940* as amended. Normally, at least three judges constitute the Court of Appeal, but the rules prescribe classes of appeals to be determined by two judges. The classes so far prescribed are continued in *S.R. & O. No. 36 of 1941*.

The West Indian Court of Appeal is an alternative court of appeal in certain matters.

In the Supreme Court in 1953 there were 31 criminal cases, 9 appeals, and 109 civil cases. In 1954 there were 28 criminal cases, 6 appeals and 83 civil cases. There were no appeals to the Windward Islands Court of Appeal and West Indian Court of Appeal in 1953 and in 1954.

SUPREME COURT CRIMINAL CASES IN 1953 AND 1954

	DISCHARGES						CONVICTIONS					
	Adults		Juveniles		Total		Adults		Juveniles		Total	
	1953	1954	1953	1954	1953	1954	1953	1954	1953	1954	1953	1954
	8	9	—	—	8	9	27	19	—	—	27	19
TOTAL	8	9	—	—	8	9	27	19	—	—	27	19

PUNISHMENTS IMPOSED BY SUPREME COURT IN 1953 AND 1954

	Fined	Whipped	Imprisonment				Bound Over
			Under 1 year	Up to 3 years	Over 3 years	Life	
1953	1	—	5	13	6	—	—
1954	—	—	5	6	7	—	—

POLICE

Maintenance of Law and Order

The Force is armed and is responsible to the Government for the maintenance of law and order. Members of the Force are liable for actual military service for the defence of the Colony against external and internal aggression.

Auxiliaries

Provision is made under the Police Ordinance for the appointment of Rural Constables; at 31st December, 1954, 296 were on the enrolment list. These Constables have all such powers, authorities, and responsibilities as are conferred or imposed upon a member of the Force.

Civil Disturbances

There was nothing of a very serious nature to record under this head although there have been a few strikes and a certain amount of unrest in the sugar valleys.

Establishment

The authorised establishment of the Force in 1953 and 1954 was:

1 Superintendent

1 Deputy Superintendent

- 1 Assistant Superintendent
- 1 Inspector
- 1 Band Master
- 2 Sub-Inspectors
- 3 Station Sergeants
- 9 Sergeants
- 15 Corporals
- 20 Lance Corporals
- 144 Constables
- 12 Band Cadets.

The establishment is distributed between 11 stations; three in the towns of Castries, Vieux-Fort and Soufriere, and eight in other villages, plus Fire Brigade, the Police Band and Headquarters in which function the Criminal Investigation Department, Criminal Record Office, Passports and Permits Office, Migration Office, Traffic and Licensing and Clerical Staff.

The Non-Commissioned Officers in charge of stations other than in Castries continue to act as Assistant Relieving Officers; and the Non-Commissioned Officers in charge of Licensing Office (Castries), Dennery, Vieux-Fort and Soufriere Police Stations are appointed deputy Inspector of Weights and Measures. These four Non-Commissioned Officers are responsible for checking weights and measures throughout the Island.

The Superintendent of Police is also Chief Immigration Officer, Superintendent of Fire Brigade and Inspector of Weights and Measures.

Recruiting

Eighteen recruits were taken on the strength of the Force in 1953. These were chosen from a batch of 30 men who received a certain amount of police training as Police Reserve during the labour unrest on the sugar Estates early in the year. In 1954 a batch of 90 applicants presented themselves for the necessary examinations, and of this number 19 were selected and enlisted in the Force.

Despite the opportunity and promising future afforded by the service for men to reach the commissioned rank, applications from youngsters with secondary education are very rare.

Training

A Police Training School situated on the Morne, about one mile from Castries and on a site overlooking the town, was opened on the 16th September, 1954. Hitherto recruits had been trained and housed at Police Headquarters. Apart from the total lack of facilities at Headquarters, such arrangements were obviously unsatisfactory. The new school is under the command of the Officer in charge, Castries District, who underwent six months' police training in the United Kingdom. The staff consists of one Station Sergeant, and one corporal. The Station Sergeant also underwent six months' training at the Police College, Hendon.

A Parade Square and Library have not yet been provided but it was hoped that they would be in the near future. Until the Eastern Caribbean

Police Training School in Barbados is completed, this local school will be the training centre for recruits, and will give refresher courses.

The Deputy Superintendent of Police attended a six months' course of training at the Police Officer College, Ryton-on-Dunsmore, England, during 1953 and one non-commissioned officer took a three months' course in Finger Prints and Photography at the West Riding Constabulary during 1954.

Other Duties

(a) *Traffic and Licensing*

(i) Traffic cases and Accidents	1953	1954
Cases	418	246
Warnings	47	14
Accidents	60	62

There were no fatal accidents. Thirty-three persons were injured in 1953 and 27 in 1954.

(ii) Motor Vehicles, licences and permits	1953	1954
Motor Vehicles	657	664
Drivers	987	1,044
Learners' permits	188	276
Driving Tests	107	139
Bicycles	382	313

(b) *Passports and Permits*

The following travelling documents were issued:

	1953	1954
Passports	1,334	1,151
Police Permits	340	487
Emergency Travel Documents	51	51
Seamen's Certificates of nationality and identity	49	72

Crime

The total number of cases reported to the Police during the year 1953 was 2,666. Of the total number, 2,372 were true cases of which 259 were indictable and 2,113 non-indictable. Classification of crimes for the year 1954 are on pages 44 and 45.

PRISONS

There is a prison for male offenders in Castries and one for female offenders at La Toc, approximately two miles from Castries.

The Prison staff at the end of 1954 comprised 26 officers made up as follows:

- 1 Superintendent
- 1 Chief Officer
- 1 Principal Officer
- 4 Grade I Officers
- 17 Grade II Officers
- 1 Matron
- 1 Assistant Matron.

TABLE I. CASES REPORTED TO AND DEALT WITH BY THE POLICE

OFFENCES	Pending at 31.12.53	Total reported in 1954	Pending Investigation at 31.12.54	Referred to Native (or local) Courts	Not taken to Court			Total	Taken to Court			Awaiting trial at 31.12.54
					Total	Civil; no case in law; or found false	Evidence insufficient, trivial or etc.	Accused dead or insane	Convicted	Dismissed	Nolle Prosequi	
AGAINST LAWFUL AUTHORITY:												
Against public order	558	23	—	—	31	17	14	—	504	76	19	67
Perjury	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8	—	2	1
Escape and rescue	9	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
AGAINST PUBLIC MORALITY												
Rape and Indecent Assault	3	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	2	—	—	2
Unnatural Offences	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Other	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	1	—	—
AGAINST THE PERSON												
Murder and Manslaughter	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	2
Attempted Murder and Suicide	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Previous harm, wounding, etc.	497	24	—	—	79	44	55	—	394	75	4	100
Assaults	74	—	—	—	14	11	3	—	60	8	1	3
Other	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8	2	2	1
AGAINST PROPERTY												
Thefts and other stealings	4	248	—	—	589	179	410	—	513	28	10	208
Robbery and extortion	—	3	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Burglary, house and store	24	14	—	—	9	—	9	—	1	—	1	—
Breaking	119	29	—	—	76	9	67	—	15	—	1	5
False Pretences, cheating	25	5	—	—	7	7	—	—	13	3	1	2
Fraud etc.	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	1	1	2
Receiving stolen property	10	—	—	—	10	—	—	—	10	2	—	1
Arson	14	3	—	—	10	2	8	—	1	1	—	15
Prædial larceny	409	72	—	—	140	47	93	—	197	19	7	3
Other	30	2	—	—	1	—	1	—	27	9	1	—
AGAINST THE PENAL CODE												
Forgery and coinage	12	—	—	—	4	1	—	—	11	1	—	7
Other	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	—	—	5
AGAINST LOCAL LAWS												
Against Traffic Ordinance	246	—	—	—	7	4	3	—	239	15	31	68
Against Township Ordinance	17	1	—	—	4	2	2	—	12	4	—	4
Against Liquor Ordinance	11	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	11	5	—	3
Gambling	26	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	25	3	—	5
Other	52	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	17	3	1	6
TOTALS	5	3,508	425	—	972	325	647	—	2,116	259	81	509

TABLE II—PERSONS DRIVEN WITH BY THE COURTS 1954

OFFENCES	Total arrested or summoned to Court	Acquitted	Nolle Prosequi	Awaiting trial at 31.12.54	Total	Convicted								First Offenders Act or Warning		
						Death		Imprisonment		Whipping		Fine				
						M	F	M	F	M	J	M	F		J	
AGAINST LAWFUL AUTHORITY																
Against public order	706	70	26	84	526	—	—	3	1	—	—	4	222	156	9	131
Perjury	10	1	2	4	3	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
Escape and rescue						—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
AGAINST PUBLIC MORALITY																
Rape and Indecent Assault	2	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—
Unnatural offences	3	1	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other						—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
AGAINST THE PERSON																
Murder and Manlaughter	6	—	—	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Attempted murder and Suicide	409	79	7	107	216	—	—	7	—	—	—	1	113	71	1	23
Grievous Harm, wounding .	66	8	2	3	53	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	36	11	1	4
Assault	13	4	2	3	4	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—
Other						—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
AGAINST PROPERTY																
Thefts and other stealings	533	48	8	213	264	—	—	33	13	—	—	11	119	24	1	63
Robbery and extortion	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Burglary, house and store	17	—	1	7	9	—	—	7	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—
Breaking	16	4	1	3	8	—	—	2	1	—	—	—	3	2	—	—
False pretences, Cheating	3	1	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Fraud, etc	15	3	—	4	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	3	—	—
Receiving stolen property	13	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Arson	237	29	11	40	157	—	—	26	1	—	—	10	98	11	2	19
Prædial larceny	28	7	1	3	17	—	—	4	2	—	—	1	9	1	—	—
Other						—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
AGAINST THE PENAL CODE																
Forgery and coinage	11	2	—	6	3	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
Other	6	—	—	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
AGAINST LOCAL LAWS																
Against Traffic Ordinance .	244	18	32	68	126	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	93	7	—	26
Against Township Ordinance	13	4	—	2	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	2	—	2
Against Liquor Ordinance .	11	5	—	3	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	4
Gambling	97	25	2	10	60	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	49	1	1	4
Other	60	9	2	5	44	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	33	5	—	4
TOTALS	2,509	320	98	580	1,511	—	—	86	19	—	—	37	781	296	15	277

Officers' Training

Only two officers of the subordinate staff have had the benefit of training; they were trained in Trinidad during 1948.

The Administration in its efforts to introduce modern methods of prison administration is confronted with two serious problems: (i) an untrained staff (ii) prison rules dating from 1906, with a few amendments.

Prisoners' Work

The main indoor occupations are carpentry, shoemaking, baking, tailoring and tin-smithing. Prison labour is also used for the cleaning of certain public buildings and Government grounds.

A small Prison Farm is now established on a plot of about 25 acres.

Prison Population

The Prison population was as follows:

<i>Period</i>	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>
at 1st January, 1953 . . .	135	18
at 31st December, 1953 . . .	120	9
at 1st January, 1954 . . .	120	9
at 31st December, 1954 . . .	107	10

Chapter 10: Public Utilities and Public Works

WATER SUPPLY

The Castries waterworks draws its supply from surface water originating in a watershed situated some five miles from the town of Castries. At its inception a large forest reserve was created at the upper level of the watershed, and the supply was wholly a gravity one, but within recent years the necessity for extension has resulted in the inclusion in the system of a pumped supply not originating wholly in the water reserve.

At the headworks of the gravity supply, low diversion weirs across the streams at their upper reaches direct the water to screening chambers and thence to the purification plant through asbestos, cement and bitumen lined steel pipes. In the case of the pumped supply, stream intakes constructed across the streams at lower elevations form a sump from which the water is pumped through similar pipes to the purification plant.

The waterworks system has recently undergone considerable extension and improvement to bring the capacity to 800,000 gallons per day, more than double the previous capacity. The change has been effected by reconstructing the gravity mains and installing five electrically operated centrifugal well pumps in place of two former oil engine driven centrifugal pumps. The latter are still being retained for emergencies. The pumps operate against overall heads of 350 and 440 ft. from two pumping stations.

Two service reservoirs provide storage for 800,000 gallons. Mains with hydrants for supplying shipping with water at rates up to about 10,000 gallons per hour are situated along the wharf. House connections are made at the householders' expense. A liberal number of street stand pipes provide water for those homes which do not have a private service.

Every dwelling within the Castries water area pays a water rate, as do dwellings outside that area which have a supply.

For fire protection, a salt water main has been installed which will supplement the fresh water mains. Its capacity is 1,200 gallons per minute, but it is confined to that part of the town zoned mainly for commerce, industry and offices.

ELECTRICITY

The Castries station, which was built in 1933, was extended in 1951 to house five generating sets. The set which was expected in 1951 arrived early in 1953 and has been installed.

The night peak load is carried by two 103.5 kW. sets and a 150 kW. set with a 72 kW. set as a stand-by.

The number of consumers for the different services were as follows:

Lighting	.	.	.	.	1,600
Domestic	.	.	.	.	400
Power	.	.	.	.	47

The total current sold is estimated at 1,000,000 units.

PUBLIC WORKS

Works Completed

La Perle Bridge (span 60 feet)

Millet Bridge (span 40 feet)

Incommode Bridge

Troumassee Bridge (major repairs)

Choiseul Causeway

Sea Wall at Vieux-Fort

Dennery Hospital

Dispensary and Nurses' Quarters, Gros-Islet

Head Teacher's Quarters—Vide Bouteille

Five miles of reconstruction of the Castries-Dennery road begun in 1953

New roads and paths at La Clery

Five miles of the Anse Callet-Quatre Chemin road and one causeway

Staff houses for the Agricultural Assistants at La Clery and Micoud

Cow pens, laboratory, dairy and piggery at Beausejour.

All heavy equipment ordered for the feeder road programme arrived in the Colony.

Chapter 11: Communications

SHIPPING

Main Ports and Anchorages

Port Castries Harbour is situated on the west coast of the island in latitude $14^{\circ} 01'$ N. longitude 61° W. and is entered between Pointe D'Estross and Tapion Rock about three-and-a-half cables southward with the leading marks in line, bearing 121° true. There are depths from four to six fathoms throughout this channel which leads to the wharves.

The harbour can accommodate all but the largest vessels and is considered one of the most sheltered anchorages in the West Indies. There is unlimited anchorage in all but abnormal weather outside the harbour entrance in between ten and fifteen fathoms of water. Vessels of 25ft. draught and under may anchor as convenient in the stream at the discretion of the Harbour Master. There are two transit sheds of a total area of 11,280 sq. ft. and an estimated capacity of 5,784 tons.

Wharves: (1) Northern Wharf 640 ft. in length with an overall depth of 27 ft. alongside.

(2) Western Wharf 500 ft. in length with an overall depth of three fathoms alongside.

(3) The Reclamation Cable Depot Wharf, length 600 ft., depth three fathoms at the western end to one fathom. This wharf is situated alongside Messrs. Cable & Wireless Ltd. Cable Depot and is reserved for the use of Cable Ships when in port.

For further details see page 144, *West Indies Pilot* Vol. II.

Buoys (1) A Warping Buoy is moored about one cable North Eastward of the light structure on the Western end of the Northern Wharf.

(2) Rendezvous Buoy: A red spherical buoy, known as Rendezvous Buoy, is moored about half a cable Eastward of the 24 foot patch and about 2 cables Southward of Point Serafin.

Tidal Information

1. Rise and fall of tide.

(a) ordinary springs 2 ft.

(b) ordinary neaps 1 ft.

2. Rise of ordinary neaps above L.W.O.S. 1 ft. 6 ins.

Aids to Navigation

Vigie Light: Elevation, 320 ft. Gp. Fl. 20 every 10 secs. vis. 24 miles.

Tapion Light: Elevation, 50 ft. White Occ. in 15 secs. vis. 5 miles.

Leading Lights: Leading lights are exhibited, the front light at an elevation of 43 ft. from a white iron framework structure surmounted by a white triangle, situated on West Wharf at Castries; and the rear light, at an elevation of 110 ft. from a red iron framework structure, surmounted by a white diamond situated about $4\frac{1}{2}$ cables South-Eastward of the front light.

Shell Petroleum Marketing Co. Pier

A white light is exhibited from the head of the pier extending Coconut Point about 20 yds. Southward of Coconut Shoal Beacon.

At corner of Western and Northern Wharves—fixed green vis. 1 mile.

Occasional Lights

Coconut Shoal Beacon fixed green vis. 1 mile.

Vielle Ville Shoal Beacon—fixed red vis. 1 mile.

Vieux-Fort situated at the south eastern extremity of the island in latitude $13^{\circ}43'N$. longitude $60^{\circ}57'W$. provides a safe anchorage except when the wind is in a southerly direction. The bay, which was used during the last war for delivering supplies to the American Army Base, has a pier 1,150 ft. long. At the head of the pier there is a depth of 31 ft. alongside and vessels with a draught of 18 ft. and 500 ft. in length, can berth on either side of the outer end.

Facilities exist for the supply of petrol and oil fuel and water, but the former are not at present available as the port is not in use. It is, however, still a port of entry.

Anchorage

Anchorage is provided in eight fathoms of water south west of pier.

Aids to Navigation

(a) Moule-a-Chique Light situated on Morne Pavillion in latitude $13^{\circ}43'N$. longitude $60^{\circ}57'W$.

(b) Beacon (unlighted) marks two-fathom patch on port side of channel.

SHIPPING SERVICES

The following lines called at St. Lucia during 1953 and 1954:

External

Canadian National Steamships Co.

Average 4 times a month to Canada and British Guiana via Islands with passengers and cargo.

Alcoa Steamships Co. Inc.

Average 4 times a month to U.S.A. and Canada via Islands with passengers and cargo.

T. & J. Harrison Line.

Average once a month to Europe via Islands with cargo only.

The Antilles Steamships Co.

Chartered Refrigerator Ships for banana trade to U.K. via Dominica, every ten days.

Compagnie Generale Transatlantique.

Average once a month to Europe via Islands with passengers and cargo.

Royal Netherlands Steamships Co.

Average twice a month with transhipment cargo from Trinidad to Islands.

*Local Shipping**M.V. Cacique del Carib*

Average twice a month to Barbados, St. Vincent, Curaçao and Aruba with passengers and cargo.

M.V. Doorwood

Average twice a month to Barbados, St. Vincent, Curaçao and Aruba with passengers and cargo.

M.V. Orion

Average 4 times a month to Barbados, Grenada, St. Vincent, Trinidad with passengers and cargo.

M.V. Lady Joy

Average twice a month to Barbados with passengers and cargo.

Aux. Sch. Grenville Lass

Average 4 times a month to Martinique with passengers.

Other Sailing Vessels, auxiliary Schooners and Sloops

To the Islands, mainly Barbados, at an average of 12 times a month.

Statistics of Ships using Ports
1953

<i>Description</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Nett Tonnage</i>	<i>Gross Tonnage</i>
War Ships (Br.)	1	1,600	1,600
Submarine Chasers (Fr.)	2	470	490
Army Barges (U.S.)	5	357	617
Steamers	45	129,558.81	224,475.69
Mine Sweepers (U.S.)	3	3,403	4,003
Motor Ships	65	170,985.32	303,089.82
Motor Vessels	191	51,505.71	99,615.76
Tankers (Dutch)	7	13,520	23,695
Motor Launches	5	23	34
Auxiliary Schooners.	127	5,449.58	6,986.92
Auxiliary Sloops	25	907	1,034
Sailing Vessels.	136	4,860.13	5,701.52
Yachts	89	1,993.34	2,507.54
	701	384,432.89	673,850.25

1954

War Ships (Br.)	3	21,050	21,050
Submarine Chasers (Fr.)	4	1,195	1,270
Warships (Dutch)	1	1,400	1,400
Army Ships (U.S.)	8	1,194	2,284
Steamers	35	149,561	257,329.32
Motor Ships	137	274,363.28	513,065.23
Motor Vessels	175	22,880	42,468.30
Tankers	6	9,644	19,426
Cable Ships	9	5,360.18	14,980.42
Tug and Barges (Br.)	1	18	34
Auxiliary Schooners.	146	5,806.76	7,578.37
Auxiliary Sloops	24	852.38	955.36
Sailing Vessels.	180	5,756.09	6,724.73
Yachts	115	2,407.12	3,093.75
Whalers	2	3	3
	846	501,290.81	891,292.48

There were 6,652 inward passengers and 7,014 outward in 1953; 6,152 inward and 6,807 outward in 1954; inward freight was 24,388 tons and outward 19,739 tons in 1953, and inward was 19,024 tons and outward 16,211 tons in 1954.

ROADS

The mileage of different types of road is as follows:

	<i>Miles</i>
Main roads	105.64
Second class roads	95.65
Unclassified and district roads	169.85

AIR

There are two airports: Vigie Airport two miles from Castries, and Beane Field Airport about 40 miles from Castries; the latter was put back into use by the United States Authorities in September, 1954. The Vigie runway is of asphalt 4,500 feet x 250 feet. Beane Field has two runways both of concrete and 5,000 feet x 250 feet.

Movements at Vigie were as follows in 1954:

	<i>In</i>	<i>Out</i>	<i>In Transit</i>	<i>Total</i>
Aircraft	996	996	—	1,992
Passengers	3,312	2,944	2,629	8,885

POSTS

External

During 1953 and 1954 British West Indian Airways maintained a service connecting the British and French West Indian Islands from Jamaica to British Guiana. They also called at British Honduras. Connections to Dominica and St. Vincent were made via Barbados by Grumman aircraft twice weekly.

Air mail to the U.S.A., Canada, Curaçao, Aruba and Cayenne are being forwarded as closed despatches via Trinidad: those for the United Kingdom are forwarded via Trinidad and Barbados. Flights by K.L.M. planes throughout the years also provided mailing facilities to Curaçao and Aruba. The volume of air mail correspondence continued to increase rapidly.

Since June, 1953, surface mails to and from the United Kingdom have been conveyed by banana-carrying steamers of the Swedish Line, viz: S.S. *Windward Islands* and *Leeward Islands* every fortnight. From June, 1954, the S.S. *Antarctic Ocean* was added to the service, with the result that mails were being received from and despatched to the United Kingdom every 10 days. The S.S. *Antarctic Ocean* has since been replaced by the S.S. *Blue Ocean*.

Mails for Canada and the U.S.A. are conveyed by steamers of the Alcoa Steamship Company and Canadian National Steamship Company, and by several vessels sailing via Barbados and Trinidad.

A few motor vessels connect St. Lucia with the Leeward Islands. Steamers of the French Line continued to ply between Martinique and St. Lucia and between Martinique and French Guiana via the Southern Islands during 1953 and 1954.

Internal

Internal postal communication between towns and villages is by motor bus (under contract) between Castries and Vieux-Fort and intervening towns four times per week. A number of motor buses run by private enterprise also ply between Castries and the coastal towns.

Postal communication by sea with the coastal towns is by two motor vessels plying under contract between Castries and Vieux-Fort five times per week. These services provide for mails, cargo and passengers.

On 2nd June, 1953, the Coronation stamp of 3 cents denomination was issued and the entire stock was sold out by December, 1953. The number of stamps sold locally was 82,500.

On 28th October, 1953, the 2 cent stamps of Queen Elizabeth II was placed on sale.

During 1954 the new issue of stamps bearing the portrait of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II was placed on sale. The 4 cent denomination was issued on 7th January, 1954; the 1 cent and 5 cent denominations were released on 1st April, and the balance of the series, namely 2 cents, 6 cents, 8 cents, 10 cents, 15 cents, 25 cents, 50 cents, \$1-00 and \$2-50, was placed on sale on 2nd September, 1954. The net local sale on the first day of issue, including advance orders to dealers, amounted to \$3,823-72 or £796 12s. 2d.

The balance of the series of King George VI was withdrawn from sale as from 1st September, 1954.

In July, 1954, the Postal Service was extended to Millet and Babonneau by the establishment of two Sub-Post Offices to serve the residents of those areas.

Total sale of stamps in 1953 was \$65,761-00, and total revenue \$72,119-00. Total revenue in 1954 was approximately \$174,750-00, the sale of stamps amounting to approximately \$160,860-00.

The number of parcels received was 8,826 in 1953 and 11,435 in 1954. One thousand one hundred and twelve were despatched in 1953 and 1,222 in 1954. The amount of Import Duty collected on parcels in 1953 was \$49,543-00 and \$77,709-00 in 1954.

U.S. money orders paid amounted to \$65,879-00 in 1953 and \$67,365-00 in 1954.

There is a telegraph money order service with the United Kingdom. During 1953, nine telegraph money orders, amounting to \$379-80 were received from the United Kingdom and eight, amounting to \$653-00, were despatched. In 1954, nine telegraph orders of a value of \$672-00 were received from the United Kingdom, and two of a value of \$288-00 were despatched.

The work of the Post Office has increased generally and the mercantile community and the public in general are making great use of air mail facilities and the Parcel Post service.

TELEPHONES

During 1953, the Soufriere Telephone System was converted from earth return to metallic, as necessitated by the advent of the new hydro-electric scheme.

Public telephones were installed at La Croix Maingot, Bexon, Fond St. Jacques and Saltibus.

In November, 1954, approval was given for the installation of a new telephone system in Castries; it was expected that the work would be completed by the end of 1955.

Chapter 12: Press, Broadcasting, Films and Government Information Services

PRESS

Newspapers published in the Colony are:

The Voice of St. Lucia, established in 1885, published five times a week.

The West Indian Crusader, founded in 1934, published weekly.

The St. Lucia Gazette, issued by the St. Lucia Government every Saturday.

BROADCASTING

There is no broadcasting service in St. Lucia, but one for the Windward Islands, with headquarters in Grenada, has been established with Colonial Development and Welfare Funds.

FILMS

No films are produced in the Colony.

There are two commercial cinemas where American and British films are shown, but all news shorts are British. The Public Relations and Social Welfare Department gives film shows (news and documentary) throughout the island.

INFORMATION SERVICES

The Public Relations Office explains the policies, actions and achievements of the Government, and supplies any information which the public may require.

Press communiques, handouts and administrative reports were issued to the press and the public; and feature articles, booklets and photographs of topical interest supplied by the Central Office of Information, London, were distributed. The press made good use of this material as well as of items from the London Press Service.

British News was shown by the commercial cinemas, and filmstrips and 16 mm. documentaries were shown in the schools and rural areas. Filmstrips are also loaned to schools and other interested groups.

The work of the Department is carried out by the Public Relations and Social Welfare Officer (who is also Probation Officer) and a Junior Clerk.

PART III

Chapter 1: Geography and Climate

GEOGRAPHY

ST. LUCIA is one of the curved chain of volcanic islands which comprise the Lesser Antilles. It is situated between the longitude limits $60^{\circ} 53'$ West and $61^{\circ} 05'$ West and the latitude limits $13^{\circ} 43'$ North and $14^{\circ} 07'$ North. It lies approximately halfway between St. Vincent to the south and the French island of Martinique to the north. Its greatest length north to south is 27 miles, its greatest breadth 14 miles. Its area of 238 square miles, is a little more than that of the Isle of Man.

The island is mountainous, the highest peak being Mt. Gimie (3,145 feet). The most spectacular mountains are the Gros Piton (2,619 feet) and the Petit Piton (2,461 feet), which are old, volcanic, forest-clad cones rising sheer out of the sea near the town of Soufriere on the leeward coast. A few miles away in an ancient crater are dark coloured, hot, bubbling sulphurous springs, an indication of the decadent volcanic activity of this district. The mountains are intersected by numerous short rivers. In places, these rivers debouch into broad, fertile and well cultivated valleys.

The mountainous build and forested nature of the island have virtually restricted settlement to the coastal areas. The capital, Castries, is situated on a fine sheltered deep-water harbour. The towns, Soufriere, Vieux-Fort, and the villages, Anse-le-Raye, Dennery, Micoud, Canaries, Lanorie, Gros-Islet, Choiseul are all on the coast.

Motorable roads connect Castries with all the main centres of population. There is regular coastal communication on the leeward side of the island; sloops and schooners also ply an inter-island trade from Castries. Modern conditions—especially the increasing use of oil-burning vessels—have led to the decline of the formerly important coaling industry in Castries. The harbour is still an important port of call for ocean-going liners and naval craft.

CLIMATE

The island lies in latitudes where the north east trade winds are almost a constant influence. The rainfall varies considerably, being greatest in the interior mountain regions; for example, it averages about 158 inches in Quillesse (central interior) and about 70 inches in Vieux-Fort (South coast).

The first four months of the year tend to be the driest. During the rest of the year there is much variation with an insufficiency of reliable data to draw sound conclusions. Reliable temperature figures are not available. Generally speaking it can be said that the temperature rarely

exceeds 90° F. and seldom falls below 70°F. except in the higher altitudes. The daily range is small. At Morne Fortune (Castries, 845 feet) wind percentage figures show that 90 per cent of the winds come from the east, east-north-east, and north-east, a constancy of direction which is reflected in the fact that Castries airport has a one-directional air strip.

Chapter 2 : History

So scant is the information on the early history of St. Lucia that the date of discovery is uncertain, for according to the known evidence of Columbus' voyages, he appears to have missed the island. Archaeological finds in various parts of the island, hitherto of no major significance, may yet contribute to our knowledge about the Caribs, the aboriginal inhabitants of the island, who resisted the early attempts at European settlement.

The first known attempt at settlement was made in 1605 when the *Olive Branch*, driven off course when en route for Guiana, landed its 67 passengers under the command of Captain Nicholas St. John. On the ship's departure the colonists were attacked by the Caribs and, after several days' severe fighting, the 19 survivors took to their boat. The island was included in the grant made to the Earl of Carlisle by Charles I in July, 1627, and a more determined attempt at settlement was made in 1638 when 130 colonists arrived from Bermuda and Major Judge was appointed Governor. Though reinforcements arrived in 1639 and 1640 the colonists were unable to withstand the Carib attackers, and the island was again abandoned in 1641.

Meanwhile the French developed an interest in the island which they claimed was included in a grant made by Cardinal Richelieu to M. d'Esnambuc in October 1626. In 1643 M. du Parquet, Lieutenant-General of Martinique, appointed M. Rousselan Governor of St. Lucia. M. Rousselan, who married a Carib, maintained his authority till his death in 1654, but his successors had brief and tragic careers. In 1660, however, local treaties were negotiated by the French Governors of St. Christopher and Guadeloupe and the British Governors of Nevis, Antigua and Montserrat on the one hand and between the French and the Caribs on the other; these treaties left the French in possession of St. Lucia and the possibility of peaceful co-existence arose. But in 1663 Francis Lord Willoughby reached Barbados as Governor and as heir to the English Patent and to the problem of finding accommodation for Barbados' surplus population. Barbados not being party to the 1660 treaty, he utilised the services of "Indian" Warner to purchase St. Lucia from the Caribs and the following year, 1664, sent an expedition under Colonel Carew to occupy the island, the French Governor

capitulating without a shot being fired. The settlement proved a failure and, on the English withdrawal from the island early in 1666, the French resumed occupation. But the wars of 1673 and 1688, the attacks of the English and the lack of assistance received by the settlement from Martinique forced a French withdrawal in turn.

In 1718 a fresh grant of the island was made by the French regent, the Duke of Orleans, to Marechal D'Estrees, who attempted to settle it with refugees. British objections were raised to this grant and in 1722 George I granted St. Lucia and St. Vincent to the Duke of Montagu. An expedition under Nathaniel Uring was fitted out at great expense to consolidate this grant; but local French opposition proved too strong and the expedition was forced to withdraw early in 1723 on the signature of an agreement that subsequent to the British withdrawal the French would also evacuate and leave the island in its former state till a decision should be reached between the two Crowns.

The next attempt at settlement was made in 1744, when England and France being once again at war, the Marquis de Champigny, Governor of Martinique, established a garrison there under M. de Longueville as military commandant. The Treaty of Aix la Chapelle in 1748 in theory once more restored the *status quo ante*; in practice, however, M. de Longueville remained as civil commandant till his death in 1761, when he was succeeded by his nephew. Meanwhile English and French commissaries disputed at length the respective rights of their nations to the island.

In February, 1762, war having once again broken out, the island surrendered to Captain Hervey, one of Lord Rodney's staff; but at the Treaty of Paris in 1763 the island was finally assigned to France. With security of tenure at last, apparently, assured, the French proceeded rapidly with its development and fortification. The fortifications were strengthened by the construction of the massive forts on Morne Fortune and the capital was removed to its present site from Le Petit Carenage in the Castries harbour on the Vigie peninsula. But the island was not yet due for a period of peaceful progress; with one of the finest small harbours in the Caribbean its military importance was such that it immediately became a target when war broke out, and its improved defences only ensured that subsequent fighting should be more bloody. In December, 1778, a strong British expedition surprised and captured the island and French relieving forces under Count d'Estaing were beaten off. Lord Rodney was so impressed by the strategic potentialities of the island as a naval base that he wrote at length in May, 1778, to the Earl of Sandwich stressing the importance of retaining the island (his letter is reproduced in full in H.H. Breen's *St. Lucia*), and it was from St. Lucia that he sailed in 1782 to win his great Battle of the Saints over the French under de Grasse. But in 1783 it was agreed in the Treaty of Versailles that the island should once again be restored to France, though the British continued in possession till January, 1784.

When war broke out again, an expedition was sent from England to the West Indies under Admiral Jervis. This force surprised the French

and captured St. Lucia in April, 1794. France at this time was in the throes of its revolution and in February, 1794, a decree had been promulgated for the abolition of slavery in the French Antilles. On the surrender of St. Lucia many of the ex-slaves and a number of French soldiers escaped into the woods whence, with the aid of planters of republican sympathies, they harassed the British. In June, 1794, Victor Hugues arrived in Guadeloupe as representative of the National Convention, and he so succeeded in organising and inspiring the disaffected that they compelled the depleted British garrison to withdraw in 1795. A strong British force under General Abercrombie reconquered the fortifications after severe fighting in the summer of 1796; but it was not till the end of 1797 that guerilla warfare ceased and the "Armée française dans les bois" surrendered at discretion.

By the Treaty of Amiens in 1802 the island was yet once more returned to France. But with the resumption of hostilities it again became the object of British attack and it was captured in June, 1803. Since then St. Lucia has remained without interruption under British rule, and it was finally ceded to Britain by the Treaty of Paris in 1814.

Till 1838 St. Lucia was administered as a separate administrative unit, its Governor being in direct correspondence with the Colonial Office. In 1838 it was annexed to the Government of the Windward Islands, then comprising Barbados, Grenada, St. Vincent and Tobago with the seat of the government at Barbados. Though from time to time since then the composition and the seat of government of the Windward Islands has changed, St. Lucia has always remained a member.

An important event in St. Lucia's history was the establishment of two United States bases under the 1940 Anglo-American agreement. In 1950 one of these bases—at Beane Field—was "de-activated" and the Government assumed control by agreement. This Base was brought back into use as from September, 1954.

When the French claim to the island was conceded in 1763 their first aim was to develop the colony as an entrepôt centre. But estates were also planted with coffee, cocoa and cotton; the first sugar estate was established in 1765 and sugar gradually obtained pre-eminence in the Colony's economy. As British annexation came when talk of emancipation was in the air and as it was followed by the Emancipation Act in 1833, economic development was slow; but later in the century with the advent of steamships the Colony became an important coaling station, an activity which reached its peak during the 1914-18 war; with the change over to oil-burning vessels this trade has declined.

On the whole St. Lucia has escaped the hurricanes, earthquakes and other visitations of nature which have caused so much damage in the other West Indian islands. The first recorded instance of a hurricane visiting the island occurred in 1675; it was visited by severe hurricanes in 1780 and 1817—the latter blowing down Government House and burying the Governor and many others in the ruins. The latest major disaster up to the period under report was the fire of 19th-20th June, 1948, which destroyed the capital, Castries.

Chapter 3: Administration

The Government of St. Lucia is administered by an Administrator who is responsible to the Governor of the Windward Islands, and is aided by an Executive Council. During the period under report the constitution of the Executive Council was regulated by Article 9 of the Royal Instructions dated 10th August, 1951, as amended by additional instructions of 1952 and consisted of the following persons; the Governor (if he was present in the Colony); the Administrator, the Crown Attorney and the Financial Secretary as *ex officio* members; the Assistant Administrator as the official member; one nominated member of the Legislative Council; and three elected members of the Legislative Council elected from that body in accordance with Article 12 of the Royal Instructions. In the absence of the Governor, the Administrator presided over meetings of the Executive Council, and the *ex officio* membership was reduced to two.

The law-making body is the Legislative Council reconstituted in 1951 by the St. Lucia (Legislative Council) Order in Council 1951, and consisted of the Administrator as President, the Crown Attorney and the Financial Secretary as *ex officio* members, three nominated members and eight elected members. The office of Deputy President was filled by a member elected by the Council from among the nominated and elected members. Elections to the Legislative Council are conducted on the basis of universal suffrage, but an elector must have a residential qualification of at least twelve months in the Colony before the date of his registration as an elector, or be domiciled in the Colony.

The members of the Executive and Legislative Councils in the period under report are listed in the Appendix to this chapter.

Under the Legislative Council (Elections) Ordinance, (No. 13 of 1951) a new list of voters was prepared which came into force on 25th September, 1951. By section 4(1) of the Ordinance the Governor may by proclamation appoint a date for the compilation of electoral lists, but in no case may such date be later than three years after the date of the last preceding general election of members of the Legislative Council.

The powers of the Governor in the period under report were contained in Letters Patent dated 27th August, 1951 and Royal Instructions dated 10th August, 1951. The Governor has reserved powers under section 26 of the St. Lucia (Legislative Council) Order in Council, 1951, for ensuring the passage of legislation which he considers expedient in the interests of public order, public faith or of good government. The proceedings of the Legislative Council are regulated by Standing Rules and Orders called the Legislative Council Rules which were made by the Legislative Council under Section 19 of the St. Lucia (Legislative Council) Order in Council 1951 on 8th December, 1952, and approved by the Governor on 19th December.

A Standing Committee on Finance of which the Administrator and Financial Secretary are *ex officio* members was established by rule 35 of the Legislative Council Rules. All unofficial members of the Legislative Council are members of this Committee of which the Administrator is *ex officio* chairman, but only the unofficial members may vote.

Directly responsible to the Administrator are the Heads of Departments. The following are the principal departments: Administration, Agricultural, Audit, Education, Land and Surveys, Labour, Legal, Medical, Police Public Relations and Social Welfare, Port and Marine, Post Office, Public Works and Treasury and Customs.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Castries Town Board

This Board is a wholly elected body of nine, and its history dates back to 1890; it is one of the oldest bodies of its kind in the West Indies. Elections are held annually; one-third of the members retire every year in rotation, but are eligible for re-election. The members select their own chairman, whose tenure of office has, since 1950, been increased from two to three years.

Since December, 1951, elections to the Board have been held on the basis of universal adult suffrage with a literacy test (ability to sign one's name). The direct result was a 50 per cent increase in the number of voters on the municipal register.

Besides its municipal functions the Board has recently made substantial extensions in its lighting and water services. The last phase of the water supply extension and improvement scheme has been completed with the laying of high level distribution mains outside the town boundaries. The laying of approximately 2,700 feet cast-iron distribution mains for the Vide Bouteille Housing Estate has also been completed by the Board on behalf of the Central Housing Authority. Since December, 1953, with the financial assistance of the Central Government, street lighting has been extended to certain suburbs.

Towns and Village Councils

Amongst the Local Authorities there was a steady and healthy growth of awareness of their rights and duties, and an increasing interest in local affairs was noticeable amongst those over whom they have jurisdiction. This was shown by the interest taken in the local Government elections, by the regularity of attendance at Local Council meetings, and by a growing efficiency in the conduct of business. The Local Authorities did much useful work within the limits of their small budgets, and on the whole tackled their problems with realism and a sense of responsibility.

APPENDIX

MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

The Governor (when present in the Colony)
The Administrator
The Crown Attorney

The Financial Secretary
 A. Pinard (Assistant Administrator)
 J. G. M. Compton
 C. G. D. LaCorbiniere
 H. E. Belmar
 M. C. Salles-Miquelle.

Mr. E. A. Heyliger assumed the duties of Crown Attorney in place of Mr. P. C. Lewis and became a member of the Executive Council on 13th January, 1954.

Mr. L. Achille Pinard was appointed the official member of the Executive Council in place of Mr. G. E. Luck on the latter's appointment as Assistant Secretary, British Guiana.

MEMBERS OF LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

The Administrator (President)
 The Crown Attorney (*ex officio*)
 The Financial Secretary (*ex officio*)
 M. Grace Augustin, Senior Nominated Member
 J. F. M. Devaux, Nominated Member
 M. C. Salles-Miquelle, Nominated Member
 G. F. L. Charles, Elected Member for the Third Electoral District (South Castries)
 H. B. Collymore, Elected Member for the Second Electoral District (North Castries)
 C. G. D. LaCorbiniere, Elected Member for the First Electoral District (Central Castries)
 H. E. Belmar, O.B.E., Elected Member for the Fourth Electoral District (Anse-la-Rayé and Canaries)
 G. M. D. Bousquet, Elected Member for the Fifth Electoral District (Soufriere)
 C. A. M. Compton, Elected Member for the Seventh Electoral District (Vieux-Fort and Laborie)
 J. G. M. Compton, Elected Member for Eighth Electoral District (Dennery and Micoud)
 I. G. John, Elected Member for the Sixth Electoral District (Choiseul).

Chapter 4: Weights and Measures

The standard measures recognised by the laws of St. Lucia are the Imperial yard, the Imperial pound, and Imperial gallon.

Chapter 5: Reading List

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- The Memorials of the English and French Commissaries concerning St. Lucia*. London, 1755.
- Essai sur la Colonie de Sainte Lucia*. Par un ancien Intendant de Cette Isle. Neuchatel, 1779.

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- REYNAL, G. T. *Historie Philosophique et Politique des Isles francaises dans les Indes Occidentales*. Lausanne, 1784.
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- WILLIAMSON, J. A. *The Caribbee Islands under the Proprietary Patents*. Oxford University Press, 1926.
- The West Indies and Caribbean Year Book*, 1953-54 Annual, Skinner.

OFFICIAL PUBLICATIONS

- Obtainable, if in print, from the Government Printer, St. Lucia, or through the Crown Agents for Oversea Governments and Administrations, 4 Millbank, London, S.W.1.
- Report on an investigation of Credit Facilities for small Cultivators in the Windward Islands*, by E. L. JACK.
- Report on the Causes and Circumstances of the Fire in Castries, St. Lucia, on the 19th and 20th June, 1948*, by Mr. Justice A. V. Crane.
- Report on the Enquiry held into the St. Lucia Police Force, July, 1948*, by Brigadier A. S. Mavogordato.
- The Revised Sketch Development Plan, 1946-1956*.
- Financial Survey, 1950*, by A. M. MacLeod-Smith.
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- Report of the Commission appointed by His Excellency the Governor to enquire into the stoppage of work at the Sugar Factories in St. Lucia in March, 1952, and into the adequacy of the existing Wage-Fixing Machinery in that Colony*. 1952.
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A map will be found facing last page

PART I

GENERAL REVIEW

THE period under review was one of great achievement in the political and constitutional field and in the improvement of the Colony's economic and financial position.

On the 14th March, 1956, the Windward Islands Letters Patent, 1955, were proclaimed and a new constitution incorporating the Ministerial system came into force. Three Ministers were appointed: Hon. Dr. C. G. D. LaCorbiniere, Minister for Trade and Production; Hon. H. B. Collymore, Minister for Communication and Works; and Hon. G. F. L. Charles, Minister for Social Services. Full responsibility for financial matters remained with the Governor through the Financial Secretary.

An outstanding event during 1955 was the Colony's participation in the visit of Her Royal Highness The Princess Margaret to Grenada.

In March, 1955, St. Lucia said farewell to the Governor, Sir Edward Beetham, following his appointment as Governor and Commander-in-Chief of Trinidad and Tobago, and on the 5th July welcomed the new Governor, Sir Colville Deverell.

In August of the same year, a detachment of the Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry paid a short visit to the Colony. In September the establishment of the United States Auxiliary Air Force Base was formally marked by a flag-raising ceremony.

A tragic event in 1955 was the fire which destroyed three-fifths of Soufrière, the second largest town, and rendered over 2,000 persons homeless.

In August, 1956, the twelfth meeting of the West Indies Regional Economic Committee was held in St. Lucia and in September, Labour Party leaders from all parts of the British West Indies met there to found the Caribbean Federal Labour Party. The Right Honourable James Griffiths, representing the British Labour Party, was present for its inauguration.

Economic Matters

The economic and financial position of the Colony showed great improvement over the last few years. Local revenue in 1956 was \$2,889,243·94 compared with \$2,191,535 in 1953. The Colony received from Her Majesty's Government a Colonial Development and Welfare allocation totalling \$5,424,000 for the period 1955-60. A list of Colonial Development and Welfare Schemes initiated or in progress is shown at Appendix I.

The main reason for the improvement of the economy was the rapid expansion of the Colony's agricultural industries. The value of sugar exports in 1956 rose by 11 per cent over the average for the two preceding years and banana exports by 42 per cent over 1955.

Despite the setback in cocoa as a result of severe drought conditions in 1955 and the decline in the world cocoa prices, the total value of the principal agricultural exports in 1956 rose by 60 per cent over the figure for 1954.

Public Works

A brief account of the important works completed or in the course of construction during 1955-56 is given below:

A control tower at Vigie Airport.

Completion of a new police station at Canaries and a new Tuberculosis ward at Victoria Hospital.

Start of the construction of a new General Post Office and a municipal building.

Inauguration of a new telephone system for Castries in January, 1956.

Completion of the road from Castries to Soufriere on the western side of the island.

Start of a low-cost housing scheme to provide accommodation for some of the victims of the Soufrière fire.

Social Services

Residual D.D.T.-spraying of all houses in the island continued as part of the joint WHO/UNICEF St. Lucia Insect Control Programme.

In May, 1955, an island-wide milk distribution scheme was inaugurated in hospitals, clinics and schools. A survey of the requirements for the improvement and extension of existing schools was carried out, and on the basis of this, an application was made for a Colonial Development and Welfare grant of £22,500 in the first instance.

Honours and Visitors

The following honours were conferred in 1955 and 1956:

Queen's Birthday

Col. A. G. Tubb, Financial Secretary, O.B.E.

Mr. N. J. Griffiths, Bandmaster and Director of Music, O.B.E.

Mr. John Evans, the Bronze Medal for Gallantry in Saving Life at Sea.

New Year Honours

Sister Florence Kernahan, Mother Superior of St. Joseph's Convent, O.B.E., in recognition of the splendid work done for women of St. Lucia by her Order over the past 100 years.

Among the distinguished visitors were:

Mr. W. I. J. Wallace, and Mr. E. W. A. Scarlett of the Colonial Office.

Mr. B. J. Surridge, Adviser on Co-operation to the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

Mr. D. W. S. Lidderdale, Fourth Clerk of the Table of the House of Commons.

The Right Honourable James Griffiths, M.P.

Visits to the island were paid by Her Majesty's Ships *Bigbury Bay*, *Burghead Bay*, *Morecambe Bay*, and H.M.C.S. *Quebec*.

PART II

Chapter 1: Population

ACCORDING to the West Indian census taken in April, 1946, the population was 71,813. The estimated end-year population in 1954, 1955 and 1956 was as follows:

1954	.	.	.	.	86,219
1955	.	.	.	.	88,150
1956	.	.	.	.	89,862

Births registered during the three years were as follows:

	1954	1955	1956
Males	1,610	1,815	1,374
Females	1,480	1,734	2,197
	<u>3,090</u>	<u>3,549</u>	<u>3,571</u>

For vital statistics see page 37.

There were 360 marriages registered in 1954, 388 in 1955 and 493 in 1956.

Chapter 2: Occupations, Wages and Labour Organisation

EMPLOYMENT

IN the absence of statistical data on the number of persons employed in the principal industries and occupations listed below, the figures of the 1946 census, which still give a fair indication of the distribution of the population, have been used with certain variations where changes are known to have occurred.

	Males	Females
Agriculture	12,000	8,000
Fishing	1,200	300
<i>Manufacturing Industries</i>		
Factories (sugar, ice, cigarettes, aerated water)	900	100
Carpenters and Joiners	1,500	—
Fitters and Smiths	180	—
Painters	250	—
Masons and Helpers	760	—
Bakers	200	—
Printers and Compositors	120	—
Electricians	100	—

<i>Commerce</i>				<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>
Retail Shopkeepers	.	.	.	100	400
Shop Assistants	.	.	.	150	1,000
Clerical Occupations and Typists	.	.	.	150	200
Labourers	.	.	.	150	50
Hawkers and Pedlars	.	.	.	50	350
<i>General</i>					
Public Service	.	.	.	1,200 males and females	
<i>Domestic Service</i>				<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>
Domestic Servants	.	.	.	80	1,800
Cooks	.	.	.	30	500
Laundry Workers	.	.	.	20	300
Nurse Maids	.	.	.	—	400

Figures showing the extent of employment or under-employment are not available as no survey has ever been undertaken. In the years under review, because of the feeder road programme and the various other projects undertaken by the Public Works Department, regular employment was available for approximately 2,000 persons per fortnight. Work undertaken by the U.S. Authorities in connection with the re-occupation of Beane Field, Vieux Fort, provided regular employment in the southern area for about 400 persons per fortnight, while the sugar estates in the harvesting season employed approximately 4,500 persons, this amount being reduced to one-third at the end of harvesting operations.

Another industry which provided much needed employment for the womenfolk was the banana industry. It is estimated that an approximate average of 600 persons are engaged weekly in all the operations connected with the shipping of bananas, the majority of those being women.

In 1955, 67, and in 1956, 20 agricultural workers were recruited for work with the Shade Tobacco Growers Agricultural Association, Connecticut, U.S.A., on the same basis as hitherto. Their contract was for one year. The recruiting formalities continued to be carried out by the staff of the Labour Department, with the screening and final selection being undertaken by representatives of the U.S. Farmers' Association.

All recruiting expenses, including medical examination of the selected workers were, as in former years, borne by the Government of the Colony, and the Regional Labour Board continued to represent all Governments participating in the scheme through its Liaison Officers service which makes arrangements for the welfare and protection of the migrants.

Figures from the Immigration and Emigration Department show that during the years reviewed 908 persons left the Colony for the United Kingdom in search of more lucrative employment.

WAGES AND CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT

Free housing is provided for a number of the workers on sugar plantations and on a number of the other estates where mixed farming is carried on. The normal working day for work performed on a time basis is eight hours; work in excess of this is paid at time and a half.

Night work is performed in the sugar and baking industries, but in the former only during harvesting operations.

In the Government Departments employing daily-paid labour, a worker was entitled, after 234 days of employment in any one year, to receive seven days holiday with pay; in the sugar industry the qualifying period was 215 days.

Commercial clerks and shop assistants were entitled by law to two weeks' holiday with pay annually.

Daily-paid workers employed in construction by Government Departments were allowed pay on two public holidays, Good Friday and Christmas Day, as though they had worked.

As a result of negotiations between the shipping agents and the Seamen and Waterfront Workers Union, the following increases on the 1953-54 wage rates came into effect on the 26th February, 1955:

	1953-54	8-hr. day	1955-56
Dockmen	38 cents p.h.		54 cents p.h.
Gangway and Watchmen	42 cents p.h.		58 cents p.h.
Winchmen, Guymen, Holdmen and Gangwaymen	55 cents p.h.		73 cents p.h.
Tally Clerks	84 cents p.h.		\$1.00 p.h.

Overtime rates were paid at the rate of time and one half from 4 p.m. to 7 a.m. the following day, and at double time for work done on Good Friday, Easter Sunday and Christmas Day.

The Wages Council Orders of 17th February, 1955, and 11th February, 1956, provided for a statutory remuneration payable to workers employed in the sugar industry as follows:

<i>Rates for 8-hour day— Agricultural Workers</i>			
	1955	1956	
Men	\$1.44	\$1.50	
Women	.92	.96	
Boys 16-18 years	.78	.81	
Boys 14-16 years	.59	.61	
Girls 16-18 years	.63	.66	
Girls 14-16 years	.51½	.53	

Rates for Task Work, 1955-56

Cutting Canes

Sixty-nine and 71 cents respectively per ton for 1955 and 1956, plus a production bonus of 60 cents per 13½ tons.

Heading Canes

Same as above for first waggon per 13½ tons. Second waggon at 73 and 75 cents respectively per ton for 1955 and 1956, plus 60 cents for 13½ tons. Third waggon at 77 and 79.5 cents respectively per ton for 1955 and 1956, plus 60 cents for 13½ tons.

Loading Canes

Twenty-nine point six and 30.5 cents respectively per ton for 1955 and 1956, plus 60 cents for 36 tons.

*Statutory Minimum Remuneration for Factory Workers***A. Apprentices**

Apprentices, i.e. workers who have not yet worked in the trade for five years.

	1955-56
Welders	} 4½ cents p.h.
Motor and Steam Mechanics	
Lathemen	
Locomotive Drivers	
Carpenters	} 9 cents p.h.
Masons	
Blacksmiths	
	4½ cents p.h.

B. Semi-Skilled

Semi-skilled workmen, i.e. workers who have worked in the trade for over five years but do not fall within Class C below.

	1955	1956
Mechanics' Assistants	} 20 cents p.h.	} 21 cents p.h.
Carpenters		
Masons		
Blacksmiths		
Boiler Tenders		
Electricians (Wiremen)		
Distillers		
Firemen		
Sugar Curers		
Pan Attendants		
Bench Chemists		
Locomotive Attendants		
Quad Boilers		

C. Skilled

Skilled workers as determined by the Factory Engineer.

Welders	} 30 cents p.h.	} 31 cents p.h.
Motor and Steam Mechanics		
Lathemen		
Locomotive Drivers		
Carpenters		
Masons		
Blacksmiths		

During the crop season all daily-rated time workers are paid at time and one-half of the ordinary hourly rate for all hours worked beyond eight hours each working day, and in the case of the period 6 a.m. Sunday to 6 a.m. Monday they are paid at time and one-half for the first eight hours and at double time in excess of eight hours. This does not apply to those employed as watchmen, penmen, stock-keepers and all other workers in charge of livestock including the procuring and handling of fodder.

Out of crop season, all daily-rated time workers are paid at time and one-half during the first eight hours and double time in excess of eight hours for work on Sundays and Public Holidays, with the exception of those employed as watchmen, penmen, stock-keepers and all other workers in charge of livestock including the procuring and handling of fodder.

For the purpose of the Order which fixes conditions of work in the sugar industry, the regular statutory half holiday is not deemed to be a holiday for the purpose of overtime.

For any work performed on Good Friday, wages are paid at the rate of time and one-half, with the exception of those employed as watchmen, penmen, stock-keepers and all other workers in charge of livestock including the procuring and handling of fodder.

Holidays with Pay

Holidays with pay are given to all field (not including task workers) and factory daily-paid workers subject to the following conditions:

- (a) the maximum holidays with pay are seven days per annum;
- (b) the qualifying period for holidays with pay must be 215 days' work each leave year subject to (g) below;
- (c) the leave year is the employment year of each employee;
- (d) for the purpose of calculating a leave year an employment period is deemed to have been terminated if an employee is absent from work without permission for a continuous period of 14 days, save in the case of genuine sickness certified by a duly qualified medical practitioner;
- (e) for the purpose of calculating the qualifying period of 215 days, time lost through genuine illness is regarded as time worked;
- (f) the daily rate of payment for holiday periods is to be equal to the average daily earnings during the qualifying period;
- (g) seasonal workers i.e. those who work during the crop season only, are entitled to holidays with pay, the qualifying period and the holidays with pay being reduced in such cases proportionately to the period of continuous employment.

In no case is a worker entitled to holidays with pay unless he has worked a minimum of 85 days, or for the duration of the crop, whichever is the shorter.

Wage Increases, 1956

In 1956 there was considerable activity on the wages front. Apart from the Wages Council for the Sugar Industry, the Wages Council for the Baking Industry, after a number of meetings, submitted proposals which were later embodied in the Wages Regulation (Baking Industry) Order S.R. & O. No. 33 of 1956 which came into effect on 1st November, 1956.

The wages prescribed by the Order are liberal and represent the first general increase in this industry since 1946. In addition, overtime rates are provided for, and also holidays with pay. The more important provisions of the Order are as follows:

(1) Minimum Wages

Foremen	.	.	28 cents p.h. or \$13.44 per week
Oven Men	.	.	23 cents p.h. or \$11.04 per week
Table Men	.	.	19 cents p.h. or \$9.12 per week

(II) Overtime Rates

For work done on Public Holidays in excess of eight hours all bakers must be paid at time and one-half.

The Wages Regulation (Agricultural Workers) Order resulted from the deliberations of the Wages Council for Agricultural Industry (other than Sugar). The rates prescribed by this Order represent a 30 per cent increase over the last statutory wage for male labourers and, approximately, a 42 per cent rise in the wage for female labourers. The Order also makes provision for the payment of overtime at time and one-half for work done beyond eight hours on a normal working day, but in the case of Sundays and Public Holidays time and a half is payable for the first eight hours and double time in excess of eight hours.

The Clerks Wages Council completed its deliberations shortly before Christmas. The Wages Regulation (Clerks) Order embodying this Council's proposals was published in late December to give effect to the following wages and conditions of service as from 1st January, 1957. The Schedule to this Order dealing with wage rates and overtime reads as follows:

1. Statutory Minimum Remuneration

A. Persons serving Customers, receiving orders or despatching goods, canvassing business of any kind, or doing other clerical or commercial work (other than persons employed as office clerks and cash boys).

(1) Within the limits of the Town of Castries and one mile of the said limits:

(a) \$25·00 per month In respect of business places open for any time between 7 a.m. and 5 p.m.

(b) \$28·00 per month In respect of business places open for any time between 7 a.m. and 9 p.m.

(2) Outside the limits of the Town of Castries and one mile of the said limits:

(a) \$21·25 per month In respect of business places open for any time between 7 a.m. and 5 p.m.

(b) \$23·80 per month In respect of business places open for any time between 7 a.m. and 9 p.m.

B. Office Clerks (which shall include all persons employed in keeping books and accounts, typists, shipping and customs clerks, cashiers—(other than those employed in retail and wholesale departments), and other clerks similarly employed):

\$35·00 per month . . . In respect of business places open for any time between 7 a.m. and 5 p.m.

C. Cash Boys.

\$15·00 per month . . . In respect of business places open for any time between 7 a.m. and 5 p.m.

2. Overtime Rates.

- (a) For work done during periods or intervals when the employee, by the terms of his contract (which shall not be inconsistent with these Regulations) or under any Law of the Colony, is not required to work, he shall be paid overtime.
- (b) Overtime shall be paid at the rate of time and one-half for ordinary working days, and double time for Public Holidays and Sundays.

3. Holidays with Pay.

- (1) All employees shall receive vacation leave as follows:
 - (a) In respect of the first year of service and each year thereafter up to and including the 9th year—14 working days.
 - (b) In respect of the 10th and each subsequent year—21 working days.
- (2) In the case where an employee ceases to be employed before he becomes entitled to be allowed a holiday, the employee shall nevertheless be paid in lieu of holiday (then deemed to have accrued) proportionately, provided the employee shall already have served a period of not less than six months.
- (3) In cases where an employee is forced, for any reason mutually agreed upon between the employer and the employee, to forego his accrued holiday in any one year, then the amount due for the holiday shall become payable by the employer to the employee.

The provisions of this Order are not intended to apply to porters or persons employed solely for running errands.

The Minister for Communications and Works received a delegation of the St. Lucia Workers' Co-operative Union to discuss *inter alia* a demand for a 30 per cent wage increase to Public Works Department workers retrospective to the 6th February, 1956. No agreement had been reached at the close of the year.

As the result of an enquiry conducted by Mr. D. J. Kirkness, Economic Adviser to the Governor of the Windward Islands, which showed that there had been a rise of 20 per cent in the cost of living, the salaries of all Civil Servants were increased correspondingly retrospective to the 1st January, 1956.

COST OF LIVING

The following figures show the monthly changes in the Cost of Living Index for 1955 and 1956, as compared with the basic year 1939.

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
1939	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	100	102	104	105
1955	273	273	279	278	278	278	278	280	280	283	279	279
1956	280	280	285	288	288	291	292	288	288	290	289	288

Prices of the principal foodstuffs in the years 1955-56 were as follows:

	1955 and 1956 cents
Beef	48 per lb.
Sugar (dark)	10 per lb.
Sugar (clear)	12 per lb.
Fish (fresh)	20 per lb.
Fish (salt)	35 per lb.
Vegetables	16 per lb.
Rice	14 per lb.
Flour	13 per lb.
Fresh Milk	24 per qt.
Margarine	52 per lb.
Eggs	10 each

LABOUR DEPARTMENT

The Labour Department continued to occupy a government building on the Reclamation Grounds, which also houses the Social Welfare Department and the Sugar Labour Welfare Department. This building is temporarily erected on land which is intended to be left as an open space in accordance with the new town planning scheme.

Duties of Staff

The Labour Ordinance enacted in 1938 established the post of Secretary for Labour, which was recently changed to Labour Commissioner, and outlined the principal duties of this officer as follows:

- (a) to regulate, supervise and review the various forms of employment of labour which exist in the Colony;
- (b) to ensure the due enforcement of labour legislature in the Colony;
- (c) to bring to the notice of the Governor every matter or thing which is likely to be prejudicial to the welfare of any class of labour, or cause of disagreement between labourers and their employers;
- (d) to make recommendations to the Governor from time to time for promoting the general welfare of labourers.

The Labour Ordinance provides that the Labour Commissioner shall be *ex officio* a Labour Inspector and confers on him powers of entering all places where work is proceeding. In addition he is the Chief Factory Inspector and exercises all the powers which the Factory Ordinance confers.

The Assistant Labour Commissioner assists the Labour Commissioner generally in the performance of his duties. His more specific duties are the compilation of the Cost of Living Index figures. He assists in disposing of grievances between employers and employees and in his capacity as a minimum wages inspector and enforcement officer under the Wages Council Ordinance, he inspects places of employment.

The Senior Clerk supervises the clerical establishment, interviews applicants for employment and repatriated workers from the United States of America, and generally assists in all matters falling within the scope of the Department.

A Junior Clerk keeps the accounts of compulsory savings of workers in the United States of America. This consists of receiving and converting

United States currency to British West Indian currency; and preparing vouchers for the payment of allotments to dependants and balances to workers on their return.

The Labour Department was represented on a number of Boards and Committees, as follows:

Labour Advisory Board	.	.	The Labour Commissioner and the Senior Clerk as Liaison Officer and Secretary respectively.
Price Control Board	.	.	The Labour Commissioner as member.
The Rent Restriction Board	.	.	The Labour Commissioner as member.
The Sugar Industry Wages Council	}		The Senior Clerk as Secretary.
The Clerks' Wages Council			
The Bakers' Wages Council			
The Agricultural Workers' Wages Council			

One hundred and eighty business places were inspected during the period under review. The inspections revealed that many aspects of the law were being infringed.

Employment Exchanges

The Labour Department continued to function as a Labour Exchange. Few employers, however, availed themselves of this service, as they selected workers from among the many who presented themselves on the spot whenever a vacancy occurred.

INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS

Trade Unions

There were six registered Unions operating in the Colony. The St. Lucia Workers Co-operative Union catered for the needs of workers generally. The St. Lucia Seamen and Waterfront Workers Union catered for the needs of dockworkers and seamen, while the Civil Service Association and the Teachers' Union served the needs of Civil Servants and teachers respectively. The United Workers' Union, during the period reviewed, confined its activity among workers of all occupations in Soufrière, while the Vieux Fort General and Dockers Union operated in the Vieux Fort district only.

Joint Consultation and Wage Fixing Methods

A Whitley Council for public service workers continued to operate during the years under review.

The Seamen and Waterfront Workers Union continued to make voluntary joint agreements with employers.

The Wages Council Ordinance No. 1 of 1952, provides machinery for the fixing of wages in unorganised or poorly organised industries. This

machinery was used to a great extent in fixing wages for the sugar and baking industries, general agriculture and for clerks in commerce, during the period under review.

The Works Committees which had hitherto been operating in the essential services, i.e. health, municipal, telephone and public works services, did not function to any extent in the years 1955 and 1956. In the sugar industry, however, the Works Committees operated quite successfully.

Trade Disputes

The St. Lucia Workers' Co-operative Union, which was active during the period, conveyed in a letter to the Colonial Engineer, dated 6th February, 1956, a demand for a 30 per cent wage increase for all Public Works Department daily-paid workers and adjustments in certain working conditions. In the interview referred to on page 11, granted to a Union delegation by the Minister for Communications and Works, the following other points were discussed:

- (1) that 14 days holiday with pay be paid to all workers continuously employed for 234 days;
- (2) every worker who suffers from genuine illness should be granted three months leave with full pay, and thereafter three months with half pay;
- (3) every worker, when required to work in an area away from his district, should be paid an out-district allowance of \$1.00;
- (4) in the case of breakdown of machinery, the workers employed in the operations of such machine should be paid in full for the first day and thereafter at half pay until such machinery is repaired;
- (5) every employee of the Public Works Department of over seven years' service should be placed on a flat rate of pay and on a permanent basis.

The Union abandoned the demand concerning holidays with pay in view of the fact that a draft bill to provide a holiday with pay for all employees under a contract of service in the Colony was in course of preparation. The demand dealing with an increased out-district allowance has since been accepted.

The Seamen and Waterfront Workers Union commenced talks with the Shipping Agents in mid-December to revise their Joint Agreement to provide for wage increases and more generous overtime arrangements. At the end of 1956 talks were continuing.

The St. Lucia Workers' Co-operative Union established a branch in the eastern part of the island embracing the workers of four of the largest estates in that area. They invited the employers of those estates to recognise them as the sole negotiating body for these workers and shortly afterwards put forward a wage demand. The upshot was a joint request by the Union and the Agriculturists Association that the Labour Commissioner undertake a survey to ascertain the strength of the Union on those estates, while both sides undertook to avoid any action which might impair good labour relations. The survey disclosed that there was a preponderance of Union members on each estate except one. The Association, as a result of the findings of the survey, accorded recognition to the Union.

On the 15th October, 1956, a strike involving 30 workers occurred at Mamiku Estate without warning. The cause was possibly due to a misapprehension on the part of the workers concerned. At a meeting in an adjoining village on the previous day the question of the ability of larger estates in the area to pay \$2.00 a day to workers, instead of \$1.20 a day, as was proposed by the Agricultural Industry Wages Council, was being discussed by speakers from the platform. It is reported that one speaker exhorted his audience to join the Union so that the wage of \$2.00 could be secured for them, for a strong Union, the speaker said, could force such a wage to be paid, by a strike if necessary. It would seem that those remarks were interpreted to mean that a strike should take place forthwith if \$2.00 per day was not paid as from the morrow. Accordingly the employer was approached by the workers on the 15th October and the \$2.00 a day demanded. This he refused. The workers departed peacefully from the estate and remained away until the 27th October, when they resumed work on the instructions of the Branch president.

On the 18th October, a banana-cutting day, a number of the regular workers of the Fonds and Patience Estates refused to reap bananas at the existing rates. Adjustments were made in the rates for heading by the latter estate, but in the former the monthly and weekly-paid staff, assisted by the few workers who had remained at work, reaped the crop.

Labour Legislation

During the years under review the following labour legislation was enacted:

The Wages Regulation (Sugar Industry) Workers Order S.R. & O. No. 9 of 1955.

The Labour Commissioner (Substitution of Title) Ordinance No. 18 of 1955.

The Labour (Amendment) Ordinance No. 17 of 1955.

The Wages Council (Baking Industry) Order S.R. & O. No. 50.

The Wages Council (Building Industry) Order S.R. & O. No. 51.

The Wages Council (Agricultural Workers) Order S.R. & O. No. 52.

The Wages Council (Clerks) Order S.R. & O. No. 53.

The Wages Regulation (Baking Industry) Order S.R. & O. No. 33 of 1956.

The Wages Regulation (Agricultural Workers) Order No. 34 of 1956.

The Wages Regulation (Clerks) Order No. 42 of 1956.

Safety, Health and Welfare

There was a marked improvement in matters pertaining to the health and welfare of the sugar workers during the years under review.

In Ciceron and L'Abbaye, community centres have been built for sugar workers, while two clubs have been opened in close proximity to the Cul-de-Sac and Roseau Factories to cater for their recreational needs. A cinema has been attached to the Roseau Club where films are shown regularly.

The Sugar Labour Welfare Fund Committee has financed housing schemes at Ciceron and Dennery on lands donated by the various sugar

companies. Recently a housing scheme was also started at Bexon, on lands leased by Sugar Manufacturers Ltd. It was proposed ultimately to build 46 houses for rental and hire purchase to sugar workers.

Health centres have been erected in close proximity to those areas where houses have been built for sugar workers.

Industrial Training

During the period under review youths from the primary schools continued to be apprenticed to the Public Works Department on the recommendation of the Education Department, based on the results of examinations held for the purpose. As previously, these youths received allowances at rates not less attractive than those paid to pupil teachers.

Chapter 3: Public Finance and Taxation

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE

THE main heads of revenue and expenditure in 1953, 1954, 1955 and 1956 were as follows:

	<i>Revenue</i>			
	1953	1954	1955	1956
	\$	\$	\$	\$
Import Duties	796,844	937,609	1,093,586	1,161,237·59
Export Duties	200,576	208,737	224,625	230,979·36
Excise Duties	228,850	243,830	270,031	305,683·89
Other Duties	39,073	28,826	31,108	18,276·59
Licences	35,573	37,541	40,564	42,610·88
Taxes	436,659	570,148	465,217	476,668·12
Harbour Dues	34,784	45,293	51,151	61,113·99
Other Fees of Administration	248,634	477,403	422,655	424,427·68
Post Office	72,120	175,536	70,591	87,102·37
Electricity, Telephones, etc.	14,612	16,113	16,138	21,212·67
Rents and Interest	25,233	25,426	25,148	30,422·23
Repayment of Loans and Advances	1,301	607	714	10,053·92
Sale of Crown Lands	57,276	18,085	36,585	19,454·65
TOTAL LOCAL REVENUE . .	\$2,191,535	2,785,156	2,748,113	2,889,243·94
Deferred Maintenance . . .	—	—	35,326	—35,325·63
Colonial Development and Welfare Schemes	26,145	484,352	772,498	1,589,267·65
Imperial Grant-in-Aid . . .	475,140	—	284,803	42,144·00
Grant-in-Aid of Administration	858,135	692,436	—	—
Grant-in-Aid for Hurricane Damage Relief	—	—	—	73,717·57
TOTAL REVENUE	\$3,550,955	3,961,944	3,840,740	4,559,047·53

Expenditure

	1953	1954	1955	1956
	\$	\$	\$	\$
Governor	13,406	18,469	15,388	15,910·59
Legislature	15,666	35,184	31,397	32,658·36
Administration	90,579	92,709	104,854	119,002·90
Accountant General	29,194	34,849	35,818	40,738·30
Agriculture	75,681	82,412	80,979	84,879·18
Audit	16,586	17,212	16,565	22,566·40
Central Housing Authority	—	25,417	11,673	7,614·20
Education	272,903	301,229	328,211	348,093·38
Judicial	23,924	26,584	26,830	29,045·10
Labour	11,089	15,233	13,776	17,689·08
Lands and Survey	25,119	24,817	28,290	38,006·33
Customs and Excise	32,810	47,582	51,384	50,608·95
Inland Revenue	27,011	25,970	36,627	35,196·98
Legal	24,948	29,041	30,384	31,661·95
Loans and Advances	—	9,600	—	—
Medical	221,984	260,147	292,724	329,244·44
Miscellaneous	389,090	211,057	163,704	500,735·83
Pensions	88,921	104,907	132,439	140,108·38
Police	253,002	253,750	269,777	287,145·74
Port and Marine	28,319	28,162	30,765	29,426·54
Post Office	46,592	62,083	54,391	57,077·97
Prisons	44,938	44,396	44,401	52,462·53
Public Debt	198,157	312,397	319,479	287,757·24
Public Works	56,552	62,865	72,036	70,847·43
Public Works, Annually				
Recurrent	349,419	258,815	300,340	361,872·74
Beane Field	21,344	18,498	16,044	9,868·31
Social Welfare	48,191	57,602	31,759	30,689·48
Subventions	126,043	161,332	113,256	154,549·06
Telephones	37,355	55,360	46,941	46,963·60
Public Works Extra-Ordinary	178,387	172,795	115,989	211,723·77
TOTAL LOCAL EXPENDITURE	\$2,751,220	2,850,474	2,816,222	3,444,144·76
Colonial Development and Welfare Schemes	154,245	832,982	860,915	1,176,312·39
Grant-in-Aid Deferred Maintenance	—	—	35,326	29,757·32
Parliamentary Grant-in-Aid	475,172	33	—	—
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	\$3,380,637	3,683,489	3,712,463	4,650,214·47

Assets and Liabilities

<i>Liabilities</i>	1955	<i>Assets</i>	1955
	\$		\$
Special Funds	1,894,771·34	Advances	2,347,149·06
Towns and Villages	10,112·90	Castries Town Board	159,500·77
Deposits, Miscellaneous	157,287·72	Investments	1,295,574·29
Joint Colonial Fund	484,800·00	Post Office Account	55,182·48
Drafts and Remittances Account	695·50	Bank Deposits	15,687·32
Castries Town Board	25,837·60	Towns and Villages	2,196·13
Surplus Reserve Fund	456,000·00		
Cash—Overdraft	593,329·29		
General Revenue Balance	252,455·70		
	<u>\$3,875,290·05</u>		<u>\$3,875,290·05</u>

	1956		1956
	\$		\$
Special Funds	1,473,757·91	Advances	1,523,455·78
Towns and Villages	12,392·84	Castries Sewerage Fund	31,958·45
Deposits, Miscellaneous	418,340·73	Post Office Account	194,706·10
Working Capital for Development of Timber Industry	50,535·03	South-Western Electricity Board, Sugar Manufacturers Ltd. (Advance)	2,708·32
Joint Consolidated Fund	700,800·00		765,000·00
Drafts and Remittances Account	8,362·78	Timber Suspense Account	7,261·00
Castries Town Council	34,362·32	Castries Town Council	159,166·32
Colony's Reserve Fund	456,000·00	Towns and Villages	6,563·73
Cash—Overdraft	607,691·74	Investments	676,799·94
General Revenue Balance	140,432·71	Sugar Funds	480,358·12
		Bank Deposits	54,698·30
	<u>\$3,902,676·06</u>		<u>\$3,902,676·06</u>

PUBLIC DEBT
Statement of the Public Debt Showing the Several Amounts of the Loans Issued and Their Respective Sinking Funds at the 31st December, 1956

Description of Debt or Loan	Amount of Original Loan	When incurred and purpose	Amount outstanding	Rate of Interest	Provision for repayment and Legal Authority	Date payable	AMOUNT OF SINKING FUND		Remarks
							Amount of Stock	Value of Stock	
Local Conversion Loan 1939.	\$ 79,903.76	1939. For payment of 5 per cent Local Loan Ordinance No. 62 of 1916 Revision. 5 per cent Loan for Construction of Baron Wing Ordinance No. 3 of 1917. 5 per cent Local Loan Ordinance No. 10 of 1918. Purchase of Baron Asylum — Ordinance No. 73 of 1916 Revision.	\$ 79,903.76	% 3½	Ordinance No. 24 of 1938.	1959	\$ 68,583.34	\$ 63,156.77	Loan free of interest in the first instance. Terms of repayment to be considered later. Original Loan reduced by \$53,217.60 being cost of area "C", originally regarded as loan now converted to free grant.
Land Settlement Loan Colonial Development and Welfare Scheme D497.	115,200.00	1945. For the purchase of Barbados Settlement Co. Land in the Vieux Fort Area.	61,982.40	—	—	—	—	—	
C/Fwd. \$	195,103.76		141,886.16				68,583.34	63,156.77	

Description of Debt or Loan	Amount of Original Loan	When incurred and purpose	Amount outstanding	Rate of Interest	Provision for repayment and Legal Authority	Date payable	AMOUNT OF SINKING FUND		Remarks
							Amount of Stock	Value of Stock	
B/Fwd. \$	\$ 195,103.76		\$ 141,886.16	%			\$ 68,388.34	\$ 63,156.77	Loan free of interest for the first 5 years, then repayment by 15 equated annuities. No statutory Authority.
Black Bay Estate Acquisition Loan. Colonial Development and Welfare Scheme D376.	41,136.00	1945. For the purchase of certain lands belonging to the Barbados Settlement Co.	31,135.14	3½	—	1965	—	—	
Castries Reconstruction Loan.	1,938,400.00	1949. For relending to persons for private re-building whose houses were destroyed by fire on 19-20 June, 1948. For sewerage and housing scheme for the town of Castries.	1,938,400.00	3½	Ordinance No. 9 for 1949.	1965/70	488,437.76	403,143.28	
Castries Re-construction Loan.	823,880.60	1953. For re-lending to persons for private re-building whose houses were destroyed by fire March, 1951.	823,880.60	3½	Ordinances No. 9 of 1953 and No. 37 of 1954.	1965/70	—	—	
C/Fwd. \$	\$ 3,024,520.36		2,955,301.90				557,026.10	466,300.05	

Description of Debt or Loan	Amount of Original Loan	When Incurred and purpose	Amount outstanding	Rate of Interest	Provision for repayment and Legal Authority	Date Payable	AMOUNT OF SINKING FUND		Remarks
							Amount of Stock	Value of Stock	
B/Fwd. Vide Bouteille Scheme Loan for Colonial Development and Welfare D1212.	\$ 3,024,520.36		\$ 2,955,301.90	%			\$ 557,026.10	\$ 466,300.05	Interest at 3 per cent payable after 3 years.
	21,600.00	1949. For housing Vide Bouteille Area.	18,236.94	3	—	—	—	—	
Soufrière Hydro-Electric Scheme.	280,119.40	1953. For installation of the Soufrière Hydro-Electric Plant.	820,119.40	3½	Ordinances Nos. 9 and 26 of 1953.	1965/70	—	—	—
	67,605.64	1955. For re-lending to Castries Town Council.	57,682.05		Ordinance No. 19 of 1955.	1961/62	—	—	Second instalment of \$67,200 to be raised in 1956.
Castries Town Council Loan for Sewerage Re-lending.	\$ 3,393,845.40		3,311,340.29				\$ 557,026.10	\$ 466,300.05	

MAIN HEADS OF TAXATION

	1954	1955	1956
	\$	\$	\$
Import Duties . . .	931,029·00	1,093,586·00	1,161,238·59
Export Duties . . .	208,739·00	224,625·00	230,979·36
Excise Duty on Rum . . .	227,855·00	279,031·00	293,506·00
Income Tax . . .	528,859·00	423,321·00	433,061·00
Succession Duty . . .	13,115·00	16,541·00	4,814·00
Rural House Tax . . .	32,047·00	31,398·00	31,169·00
Stamp Duty . . .	15,711·00	14,567·00	13,462·00

Import Duties

Ad Valorem and specific rates of duty are paid on imports of food, drink and tobacco, raw materials and unmanufactured articles, and articles wholly or mainly manufactured. Specific rates are paid on animals not for food: bullion and specie are exempted.

The principal imports of food, drink and tobacco are beer and stout, grain (rice, flour, cornmeal and other cereals), preserves, milk, pickled meats, hams and bacon, tea, coffee, tobacco, cigarettes, edible fats, butter and lard. The main imports of raw materials and unmanufactured articles are leather and lumber; those of articles wholly or mainly manufactured are wearing apparel, cotton piece-goods, hardware, machinery, medicines, metals, paints and colours, and other manufactures of wood and timber.

The cost of goods for the purpose of ascertaining the amount of *ad valorem* duty payable is calculated on the price charged for the goods by the vendor and verified by the genuine invoice for such goods. The calculation is based upon all charges on such goods up to the time of their arrival in the Colony; if the goods have been procured otherwise than by *bona fide* purchase the *ad valorem* duty is calculated on the actual market value of such goods in the Colony at the time the goods are removed from bond.

Articles imported by or for the use of Her Majesty's Naval or Military Forces, the Police Force, Girl Guide and Boy Scout Associations, the Colonial Government, the Governor, and municipal authorities; and several other articles listed under Ordinance No. 8 of 1940 for the purpose of encouraging trade and commerce, local agriculture and scientific investigation, are exempted from payment of import duty. A preference of approximately one-third is in many cases allowed on goods of Commonwealth origin. The margin of preference is fixed by agreement.

The Governor in Council may remit or authorise the exemption of import duty or refund in whole or in part any customs duty payable or paid by any person or on any goods not specified in the table of exemptions in the 1940 Ordinance.

Export Duties

Export duties are collected on exports from the Colony, of which the main are bananas, charcoal, cocoa, coconuts and copra, firewood, fruit, honey, lime products and sugar.

In order to collect the duties, export prices are fixed by an Export Prices Committee under the chairmanship of the Collector of Customs. The duty on all items except firewood and charcoal is on a sliding scale.

Excise Duties

Excise duty on spirits made in the Colony (rum) was charged at \$2.84 per proof gallon.

In 1951 and 1952 excise duty on sugar was levied at the rate of \$9.98 per ton on clear sugar manufactured and consumed in the Colony, but it was raised to \$15.03 per ton by Ordinance No. 1 of 1953.

The Governor in Council is empowered to remit the whole or any part of the duty payable if he is satisfied that it would be just and equitable to do so.

Income Tax

The rates of income tax upon the chargeable income of individuals are on a sliding scale from 12 cents on every \$4.80 of the first \$480.00, to \$3.12 on every \$4.80 above \$24,000.00. The tax upon the chargeable income of a company is charged at the rate of \$1.60 on every \$4.80. These rates are contained in Section 23 of the Income Tax Ordinance 1947, No. 8 of 1948, and Section 24 of the said Ordinance as amended by Section 4 of the Income Tax (Amendment) Ordinance No. 18 of 1953.

Incidence of Tax

Income Group	1955		1956	
	No. of Assessments	Tax Payable	No. of Assessments	Tax Payable
\$ 480.00- \$ 960.00 . . .	643	\$ 6,327.21	735	\$ 5,520.16
964.80- 1,440.00 . . .	379	4,138.58	364	3,978.28
1,444.80- 1,920.00 . . .	204	4,730.43	197	5,356.65
1,924.80- 2,400.00 . . .	103	3,695.21	127	6,080.03
2,404.80- 2,880.00 . . .	63	4,895.91	70	5,117.62
2,884.80- 3,360.00 . . .	35	4,250.17	40	4,778.76
3,364.80- 3,840.00 . . .	35	5,253.99	30	5,334.00
3,844.80- 4,320.00 . . .	33	8,077.88	38	9,270.48
4,324.80- 4,800.00 . . .	23	7,703.60	19	5,333.23
4,804.80- 5,280.00 . . .	10	3,681.60	15	5,639.64
5,284.80- 6,720.00 . . .	26	13,376.00	19	9,126.04
6,724.80- 9,600.00 . . .	25	27,514.94	30	32,483.88
9,604.80-12,000.00 . . .	6	11,534.63	10	18,588.24
12,004.80-14,400.00 . . .	6	16,491.36	6	13,512.72
Over 14,400.00 . . .	13	69,041.66	13	59,367.84
Additional Assessments . . .	29	1,279.44	26	745.56
Supplementary Assessments . . .	101	43,558.80	70	19,832.57
Total . . .	1,734	235,551.41	1,809	210,065.70
Companies . . .	51	266,359.35	47	245,241.64
Grand Total . . . \$	1,785	501,910.76	1,856	455,307.34

Succession Duty

This duty is levied under the provisions of the Succession Duty Ordinance No. 124 of 1916 (Revision).

Where death occurs within the Colony the person accountable for succession duty is required within three months after the death to deliver to the Treasurer a declaration of the value of the estate of the deceased; where death occurs outside the Colony the period is six months. The Accountant General may under certain circumstances extend the period for a further three or six months in the respective cases referred to and further delays may be granted on application to the Judge.

Succession duty is collected on all estates in excess of \$480, but only half rate is payable in respect of succession passing to the wife, the mother or the lawful son or daughter of the deceased or the illegitimate son or daughter of a deceased mother.

Land and House Tax

The following taxes are levied annually under the provisions of the Land and House Tax Ordinance No. 29 of 1949 on all lands and houses situated outside of the limits of any town or village:

(a) Upon land, 24 cents per acre or fractional part of an acre.

(b) Upon houses of which the assessed annual rental shall be:

Over	25·00 and not over	35·00	.	.	.	1·80
"	35·00	"	"	"	50·00	2·40
"	50·00	"	"	"	60·00	3·60
"	60·00	"	"	"	80·00	4·80
"	80·00	"	"	"	100·00	6·72
"	100·00	"	"	"	Seven per centum of the assessed annual rental	

The assessment is made by the Tax Officer and payment can be enforced in a summary manner before the inferior courts.

Chapter 4: Currency and Banking

CURRENCY

THE currency of the Colony is the West Indian dollar which is linked to sterling at the rate of \$4·80 to the £. Notes issued by the Eastern Caribbean Currency Board and United Kingdom coinage are legal tender. The Board issued its own coinage in replacement of United Kingdom coinage in 1955, the use of which commenced on 15th November of that year.

BANKING

There are three banks operating in the Colony: Barclays Bank DCO, the St. Lucia Co-operative Bank Ltd., and the Government Savings Bank of which branches exist at Soufrière, Vieux Fort, Dennery, Gros Islet, Anse-la-Rayé, Micoud and Choiseul.

St. Lucia Co-operative Bank

The St. Lucia Co-operative Bank, Ltd., was established in 1937 with an authorised capital of \$150,000. The bank declared a dividend of 9 per cent in 1955 and 1956. Statistics of deposits and loans were as follows:

Deposits

<i>Year</i>	<i>Deposits</i>	<i>Withdrawals</i>	<i>Balance</i>
	\$	\$	\$
1954-55 . .	908,299·45	845,433·50	1,256,192·19
1955-56 . .	918,154·49	819,777·33	1,354,569·35

Loans

<i>* Year</i>	<i>Loans Issued</i>	<i>Loans Repaid</i>	<i>Loans Outstanding</i>	<i>Interest Received</i>
	\$	\$	\$	\$
1952-53 . .	450,147·60	535,816·80	1,011,514·21	62,994·37
1953-54 . .	482,821·91	468,006·25	976,269·87	63,306·04
1954-55 . .	481,933·06	454,895·31	1,003,307·62	66,161·26
1955-56 . .	424,913·88	334,222·67	1,093,998·83	66,092·08

* The Bank's financial year ends on 30th September.

Revenue for the year ended 30th September, 1956, amounted to \$80,068·68 and expenditure to \$30,220·93, leaving a net profit of \$49,847·75.

Government Savings Bank

		<i>1955</i>	<i>1956</i>
No. of Depositors . .		3,184	4,623
Amount Deposited . .		\$382,602·48	\$454,909

Exchange Rates

Commission rates charged by the Currency Authorities for the issue and redemption of notes were: one-half per cent plus the cost of any telegrams sent in connection with each transaction either by the Caribbean Currency Board or by the Crown Agents.

The following were the commercial banks' rates of exchange for telegraphic transfers:

<i>Selling</i>		<i>Buying</i>
\$4·83	per £1 sterling . .	\$4·77
\$173·2†	per U.S. \$100 . .	\$171·2†
\$176·4†	per Canadian \$100 . .	\$174·0†

† Rates fluctuated during the years, but these figures show the average position.

Chapter 5: Commerce

THE estimated total imports, total exports and re-exports (excluding bullion and specie) was as follows:

<i>Year</i>	<i>Total Imports</i>	<i>Total Exports</i>	<i>Re-exports</i>
	\$	\$	\$
1954 . .	5,181,219	3,540,698	189,285
1955 . .	6,118,630	3,894,032	151,278
1956 . .	7,908,171	4,284,549	230,822

Principal imports and exports by quantity and value are shown in the following tables.

Principal Imports

	Unit	1954		1955		1956	
		Quantities	Value \$	Quantities	Value \$	Quantities	Value \$
Beer, ale and stout	gal.	15,692	42,479	18,963	53,033	19,711	63,488
Boots and shoes	doz. prs.	6,521	180,149	6,258	193,818	7,510	209,196
Cement	barrels of 400 lb.	9,089	63,165	1,812*	87,512	2,750*	149,373
Cotton piece-goods	sq. yd.	696,432	310,846	570,215	246,021	612,525	248,029
Art silk piece-goods	sq. yd.	362,938	183,119	385,222	191,447	461,303	215,526
Flour	bags of 196 lb.	31,111	542,879	7,824,035	703,147	7,632,070	639,110
Machinery—							
Agricultural	—	—	4,909	—	22,383	—	—
Sugar	—	—	80,984	—	87,428	—	216,700
Manures, chemical	ton	1,015	128,750	1,110	153,344	1,604	232,036
Milk, condensed	lb.	176,311	47,345	220,181	49,234	180,736	58,461
Motor cars	No.	61	121,453	80	170,763	85	184,565
Motor trucks	No.	12	44,887	15	58,511	28	103,881
Motor parts	—	—	24,680	—	35,057	—	44,172
Motor tyres	—	—	57,805	—	106,782	—	82,545
Paints and colours	lb.	108,897	46,867	130,824	51,891	139,377	52,646
Rice	lb.	1,885,956	203,942	1,601,364	172,247	808,580	90,469
Sacks and bags	doz.	5,643	15,698	13,219	66,435	20,512	105,388
Soap, common	lb.	395,572	84,558	485,290	97,535	278,285	57,623
Spirits—							
Whisky	gal.	1,656	18,140	2,316	24,244	2,424	25,779
Brandy	gal.	391	3,680	880	8,469	1,238	11,082
Gin	gal.	623	4,792	602	4,743	796	6,052
Tea	lb.	8,526	9,955	11,356	15,027	11,299	16,019

* Tons.

Principal Exports

	Unit	1954		1955		1956	
		Quantities	Value \$	Quantities	Value \$	Quantities	Value \$
Bananas	stems	306,432	506,421	445,687	642,778	783,950	1,537,220
Cocoa	cwt.	4,032	321,903	5,962	427,405	4,385	190,219
Coconuts	No.	431,410	27,826	2,126,998	149,255	1,652,008	108,418
Coconut Oil	gal.	638,724	578,646	2,201,966	514,382	102,551	238,434
Copra	lb.	2,931,926	389,396	1,800,020	236,965	2,466,426	334,832
Honey	lb.	63,088	8,455	72,960	11,738	18,920	2,674
Molasses	gal.	190,520	18,946	40,541	3,648	133,297	15,182
Sugar	ton	7,301	1,309,899	9,053	1,559,090	9,125	1,598,687

*Direction of Trade**Total Imports*

<i>Sources</i>	1954 \$	1955 \$	1956 \$
United Kingdom	3,049,060	2,393,870	2,627,337
Canada	967,386	1,214,803	1,153,448
Other Commonwealth Countries . .	1,186,374	1,418,833	1,658,208
United States of America . . .	545,073	518,965	1,623,729
Other Foreign Countries	433,326	572,159	845,449
Total . \$	5,181,219	6,118,630	7,908,171

Exports (excluding Ships' Stores)

<i>Destinations</i>	1954 \$	1955 \$	1956 \$
United Kingdom	2,197,531	2,835,044	3,407,284
Canada	22,219	14,019	2,312
Other Commonwealth Countries . .	989,112	495,052	686,220
United States of America	15,964	3,166	6,274
Other Foreign Countries	315,872	546,751	182,459
Total . \$	3,540,698	3,894,032	4,284,549

PRICE CONTROL

Price control was maintained on imported groceries, textiles, hardware, drugs, etc. All locally-produced commodities, except beef, fish, sugar and the products of the bay rum industry, were decontrolled. Bulk purchase of rice by the Government continued.

Chapter 6: Production*

LAND UTILISATION AND TENURE

Classification	Acreage Estimate 1954
Total area including inland water bodies	152,320
Total area excluding inland water bodies	150,350
Built-on areas including roads and railways	1,000
Permanent wasteland	18,000
Unused but potentially productive area	19,705
Agricultural area	56,700
(a) Arable land and orchards	48,100
(i) Land Crops	21,000
(ii) Orchards (area under fruit and nut trees, vines and fruit-bearing shrubs).	1,330
(iii) Market and kitchen gardens	12,400
(iv) Temporary meadows and pastures	1,920
(v) Temporary fallow	11,450
(b) Permanent meadows and Pastures	8,600
Wood and Forest Lands	55,050
Other lands, i.e. Military Reserve	200

Land and Water Conservation

Soil conservation is practised on a small scale throughout the island, but there are no laws or regulations enforcing such practices. Most of the major forest areas are owned by the Crown and are protected as water reserves by the Forest, Soil and Water Conservation Ordinance No. 6 of 1945 and No. 18 of 1951. The Forestry Department regulates deforestation and afforestation throughout the island. Squatting on Crown Lands and destruction of forest trees are prohibited.

Land Ownership

Land in St. Lucia is divided into Crown and private lands.

Crown lands comprise forest reserves and other land. The sale of Crown lands was discontinued from 1st January, 1942, and a lease-hold system instituted under Ordinance No. 7 of 1945. It is not the policy, however, to lease or rent land in the Central Forest Reserve.

Approximately 127,200 acres are in private and approximately 24,800 acres in Government ownership.

Private freehold land is either cultivated by the owner or managed on his behalf, or leased or rented (some of the estates and holdings belong to absentee landlords). The average period of a lease is five to ten years.

* For further information, particularly on agriculture, see *The Agricultural Development of St. Lucia*. Report of a team of experts on visit in March and April, 1951.

Cash rental and share cropping are common. Cash rental may be annual or bi-annual and ranges from \$2·40–\$10·00 per acre per annum. On the share cropping system the owners of the land generally demand one-third of the proceeds, the tenant bearing all the expenses for clearing and cultivation. Sometimes, however, the owner supplies part of the planting material. In very rare cases the tenant receives all the proceeds from the land on the agreement that he plants, on the land rented, such permanent crops as coconuts, cocoa and coffee.

Land Settlement

A successful method of land settlement has not yet been devised. The team of experts which visited the Island in 1951 recommended two methods. These have been under consideration, but it was not expected that any substantial land settlement scheme could be implemented in the near future.

AGRICULTURE

In the absence of adequate data on domestic consumption, export figures are used from year to year as a guide to trends in local production. A summary of the principal agricultural exports from 1954–56 is given on page 27.

The use of mechanical tillage, the application of fertilizers and the adoption of inter-cropping have increased the yield of crop per acre. Worthy of note, too, is the success of the practice adopted by estate owners, whereby bananas have been established on coconut-growing land.

The Agricultural Department programme, financed by Colonial Development and Welfare funds, provides for assistance to peasants in the development of their holdings. Funds have also been allocated under the same plan for the distribution of planting material, at a nominal price, to estate owners and peasants.

The high prices and keen demand experienced in the past few years have encouraged producers to improve and expand their cultivation of export crops, and the assistance given by way of Government expenditure on feeder roads, planting materials, instructional staff, and special contributions to the banana and cane-farming industries has produced a noticeable response.

Sugar

There was a marked improvement generally in the output of cane by cane farmers, due to the Government-sponsored programme for the expansion of sugar cane production by small cultivators. This programme included the provision of nurseries for the multiplication of improved planting materials, and a credit scheme for the supply of fertilizers, financed by Colonial Development and Welfare funds. The quantity of farmers' canes reaped and supplied to the two sugar companies during the sugar cane seasons 1953–54, 1954–55 and 1955–56 was as follows:

Production

31

	1953-54 tons	1954-55 tons	1955-56 tons
Sugar Manufacturers Ltd.:			
Roseau Factory	6,838	7,965	9,648
Cul-de-Sac Factory	4,702	4,368	6,299
	11,540	12,333	15,947
Dennery Factory Co. Ltd.	7,747	7,333	8,365
Total	19,287	19,666	24,312

The total value and quantity of sugar exported during the same periods were as follows:

1953-54		1954-55		1955-56	
Tons	Value	Tons	Value	Tons	Value
	\$		\$		\$
7,301	1,309,899	9,053	1,559,090	9,125	1,598,687

Coconuts and By-Products

A considerable quantity of whole nuts were exported to the United Kingdom, the number of coconuts exported being as follows:

	1954	1955	1956
No.	431,410	2,126,998	1,652,008

Exports of copra for the same period were as follows:

	1954	1955	1956
Lb.	2,931,926	1,800,020	2,466,426

Bananas

Banana-growers maintained a keen interest and there was a steady demand for fertilizers. An island-wide Leaf Spot control campaign was operated through the District Branches of the Association, and exports to the United Kingdom continued to increase, as shown in the following table:

1954		1955		1956	
No. of Stems	Value \$	No. of Stems	Value \$	No. of Stems	Value \$
306,432	506,421	445,687	642,778	783,950	1,537,220

It is estimated that there are at present some 2,500 acres of this crop under cultivation, peasant production covering some 1,500 acres and estate production 1,000 acres.

The Association continued to operate a fertilizer loan scheme and during the period under review 394 registered members obtained loans totalling \$34,372.20.

Cocoa

By means of grants from Colonial Development and Welfare funds, the Cocoa Industry (Expansion of Propagation) Scheme which started in 1950 continued. Some six and a half acres of suitable land have been made into nurseries at Union Agricultural Station and established with high-yielding clonal material imported from Trinidad, Grenada and Dominica. Many extensions and improvements have been made at the Agricultural Station,

including the construction of closed and open spray bin propagating units, humidifiers for hardening off the rooted clones, and the importation of a portable sprinkler irrigation unit.

The total number of plants distributed in 1954, 1955 and 1956 was as follows:

	1954	1955	1956
No.	49,278	110,442	128,715

Exports of cocoa in the same period were as follows:

	1954	1955	1956
Cwt.	4,032	5,962	4,385

Agricultural Department

The Agricultural Department is sub-divided into three main divisions: District and Extension, Animal Husbandry, and Forestry. The staff comprised:

- 1 Agricultural Superintendent.
- 2 Agricultural Assistants.
- 2 Senior Agricultural Instructors.
- 1 Veterinary Officer.
- 1 Senior Mechanic.
- 1 Foreman.
- 6 Clerical staff.

Supplementary staff provided from Colonial Development and Welfare funds were as follows:

- 1 Senior Field Officer.
- 3 Agricultural Assistants.
- 12 Agricultural Instructors.
- 1 Assistant Agricultural Superintendent.
- 2 Field Assistants.
- 2 Cocoa Nurserymen.
- 1 Senior Livestock Officer.
- 1 Technical Assistant.
- 1 Field Assistant.
- 1 Marketing Officer.
- 2 Marketing Assistants.
- 1 Produce Inspector.
- 1 Superintendent of Agricultural Machinery.
- 1 Cane Farming Officer.
- 4 Clerical Assistants.

The policy of the Department is:

- (a) to investigate and publicise better methods of land use, crop cultivation and livestock rearing;
- (b) to propagate and distribute improved varieties and strains of crops and livestock;
- (c) to evolve measures for the prevention, control and/or eradication of pests and disease of crops and livestock;
- (d) to regularise, maintain and improve forests and forest reserves and foster the controlled economic exploitation of timber.

ANIMAL HUSBANDRY

Livestock

Improvement and maintenance of the grazing areas continued satisfactorily; new fodder grasses were introduced and three miles of the perimeter fence and the construction of an independent water supply were completed. Silage was laid down as a food reserve and for demonstration purposes. Apart from births at the centre, some 150 lambs, progeny of two grade Wiltshire Horn rams, were born to peasant-owned ewes, and insemination and stud services for cattle totalled 136. There was keen demand from all types of stock owners for the purchase of young pigs from the 18 litters born to pedigree Large Black pigs imported from the United Kingdom in 1955.

A Government Pasturage Lands Ordinance was passed in 1956, for application in the first instance in connection with the Vieux Fort scheme.

FORESTRY

The Colonial Development and Welfare timber development scheme came to an end in March, 1956, and proposals were submitted to the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Government to take it over. Meanwhile it continued to operate on interim arrangements. The following is a summary of the timber treated during 1955 and 1956.

<i>Timber Treated</i>	<i>1955</i>		<i>1956</i>	
	<i>Quantity</i>	<i>Value</i>	<i>Quantity</i>	<i>Value</i>
	<i>Bd. Ft.</i>	<i>\$</i>	<i>Bd. Ft.</i>	<i>\$</i>
Undressed timber purchased .	86,842	10,780	78,661	9,124
Dressed timber produced .	87,158	19,829	79,656	19,269
Dressed timber sold .	96,135	24,203	85,871	20,702

A new forestry development scheme was approved by the Secretary of State in 1956, and a free grant of £12,500 was provided from Colonial Development and Welfare funds for its implementation.

Timber cut and extracted during the period under review, according to available records was as follows:

	<i>Crown Forests (cu. ft.)</i>	<i>Private Forests (cu. ft.)</i>
1955	38,378	146,032
1956	30,065	44,393

Imports of timber were as follows :

	<i>1955 (cu. ft.)</i>	<i>1956 (cu. ft.)</i>
Lumber undressed	1,465	2,659
Lumber dressed	5,359	4,429
Shingles	100	N.A.
Posts	2,280	N.A.

Exports were as follows:

		1955	1956
Firewood		55 cords	21 cords
Hocsticks		12 tons	N.A.
Lumber		3,085 cu. ft.	2,503 cu. ft.
Posts		2,528 cu. ft.	N.A.
Spokes		3 tons	N.A.

CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES

At the end of 1956 there were 11 registered Co-operative Societies as follows:

- 2 Consumer Societies (one in process of dissolution);
- 2 Credit Societies;
- 1 Transport Society (in process of dissolution);
- 5 Producer Societies;
- 1 Irrigation Society.

Co-operative activity had fallen on a period of depression. Lack of suitably trained personnel, of funds for promotional work, and of credit facilities, militated against the emergence of a strong co-operative movement.

The future of the movement seemed to lie in the direction of the formation of producer associations for the marketing of local produce for which there is a definite need.

FISHING INDUSTRY

The lobster export trade was resuscitated during the period under review, with regular shipments being made to Guadeloupe by air. During 1956, 25,628 lb. of lobsters valued at \$21,656 were exported.

The supply of fish during the period was frequently inadequate, due in no small part to adverse weather conditions preventing boats going to sea. Exports of fish to Martinique were as a result discontinued from July, 1956.

MARKETING

Following the recommendation in the 1951 agricultural development report that a Marketing Department be set up, provision was included in a Colonial Development and Welfare scheme for the appointment of a Marketing Officer and three Assistants. The Marketing Officer was appointed in October, 1954. His duties entail the establishment and operation of a marketing organisation for the handling of locally-grown food and cash crops, fruit and vegetables, and the provision of advisory services to Producer Associations. Two Marketing Assistants were appointed during the period under review.

Chapter 7: Social Services

EDUCATION

IN 1955 there were 51 primary and two secondary schools receiving grants-in-aid from the Government, and one Government primary school. Of the 51 grant-aided primary schools, 45 were Roman Catholic, three Anglican, and three Methodist. There were 16,138 children on the roll in these schools and the average attendance was 11,146. Two Roman Catholic schools capable of accommodating 300 children were opened in 1955, one at Marchand, Castries, and another at Roseau in the Anse-la-Raye District.

A survey of the requirements for the improvement and extension of existing schools was carried out, and, on the basis of this, application was made for a grant of £22,500 from Colonial Development and Welfare funds.

Primary

In 1955, \$331,272 was spent from Colony funds on primary education, and \$444,200 in 1956. The sum in both cases excludes the expenses of the Education Department. In 1955, there were 391 primary school teachers of whom 151 were certificated, and of that number 23 were being trained, 114 were uncertificated and 126 were Pupil Teachers.

During 1955 and 1956, a team of five supervising teachers attached to the Education Department was responsible for the training of uncertificated and pupil teachers. They conducted the usual week-end classes during each term and vacation courses. Vacation courses were also held for Head Teachers and Certificated Assistants. In addition, they gave lectures under the auspices of the Education Department to a group of teachers preparing for the A.C.P. Examination.

In September, 1955, two, and in September, 1956, three, teachers entered Erdiston Training College, Barbados, on a two-year course.

Secondary

St. Mary's College, a Roman Catholic boys' secondary school had an enrolment of 290 during 1955 and 304 in 1956. It received a grant-in-aid of \$24,264 in 1955 and \$25,920 in 1956. St. Joseph's Convent, a Roman Catholic girls' secondary school, had an enrolment of 366 in 1955 and 376 in 1956. It received a grant-in-aid of \$15,048 in 1955 and \$20,736 in 1956. The Head Master and senior members of the staff of the College are Brothers of the Presentation Order, Cork, Eire. Five of the senior masters are university graduates. The junior staff consists of laymen who possess the Higher School Certificate or Intermediate Arts. The Head Mistress and the majority of the members of the staff at the Convent are Sisters of St. Joseph of Cluny. Four of the Sisters and two of the Pay Staff are graduates.

Both secondary schools present students annually for the Cambridge School Certificate and Higher School Certificate. At St. Mary's College, General Science is taken regularly as a subject in the Cambridge Examinations.

Visual Aids and Music

Films were shown to the pupils of Castries schools on Empire Day in 1955 and 1956. In areas outside Castries the Public Relations Officer showed a number of films.

The Extra Mural Department, University College of the West Indies, held lectures during 1955 and 1956, many being illustrated by filmstrips and film slides.

During 1955 and 1956, the St. Lucia Police Band Master visited primary schools to advise teachers and report on the standard of singing. At the teachers' vacation courses he gave instructions on the rudiments of music.

In the secondary school for girls, a number of students took instrumental and singing examinations of Trinity College.

Adult Education

The Extra Mural Department, University College of the West Indies, continued to be the main body responsible for the organisation of adult classes in the island. Classes were conducted in Castries and included the following subjects:

arithmetic, art, biology, drama, English language, English literature, French, history, public speaking, and world affairs.

The number of classes provided for in 1955 was 191; the aggregate attendance was 1,435. Other organisations also conducted classes, chief among them being the Catholic Youth Organisation, Castries.

PUBLIC HEALTH

The medical services are administered by a Senior Medical Officer who is also the Medical Officer of Health. The Island is divided into six districts, each of which has a resident Medical Officer. In 1956 St. Lucia had a full staff of Medical Officers, for the first time in many years.

Hospitals and Institutions

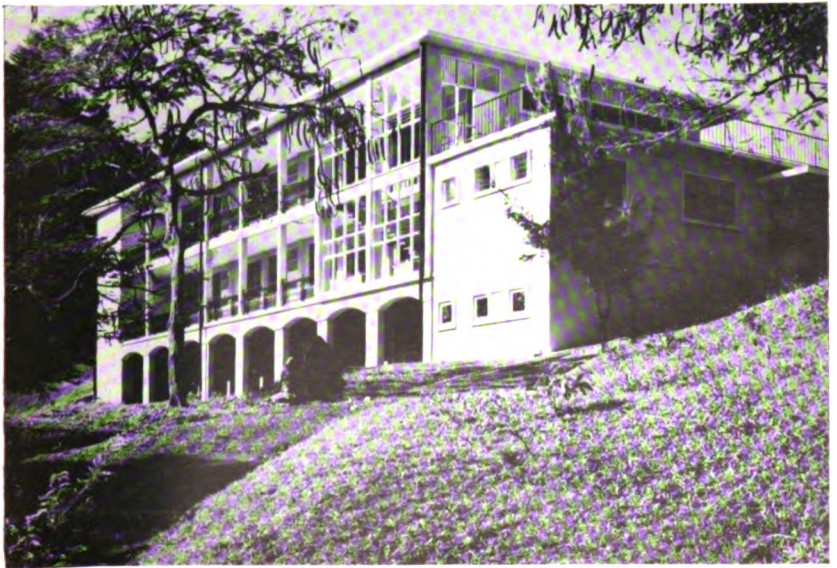
Victoria Hospital, the only large hospital in the Island, had approximately 120 beds and was in the charge of a resident surgeon assisted by a resident Medical Officer. This hospital is a general one where all major and most of the minor surgery of the Island is done, and also deals with medical and maternity cases. A tuberculosis ward to accommodate 50 patients was started in 1956, its cost being met from Colonial Development and Welfare funds.

The small hospitals and institutions listed below are in the charge of the Medical Officer of the District.

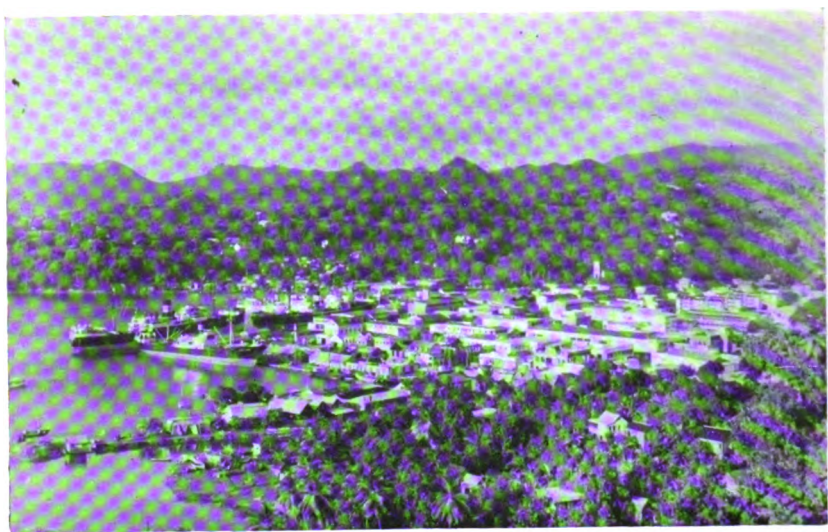
	<i>Beds</i>
Soufrière Hospital . . .	20
Vieux Fort Hospital . . .	22
Dennerly Hospital . . .	14
Mental Hospital . . .	125
Leper Home . . .	20
Home for the Aged and Infirm .	120



Harvesting sugar cane. The workers' houses were constructed by the Sugar Labour Welfare Fund Committee



New Tuberculosis Ward, Victoria Hospital, Castries



[Copyright, Leo St. Helene]

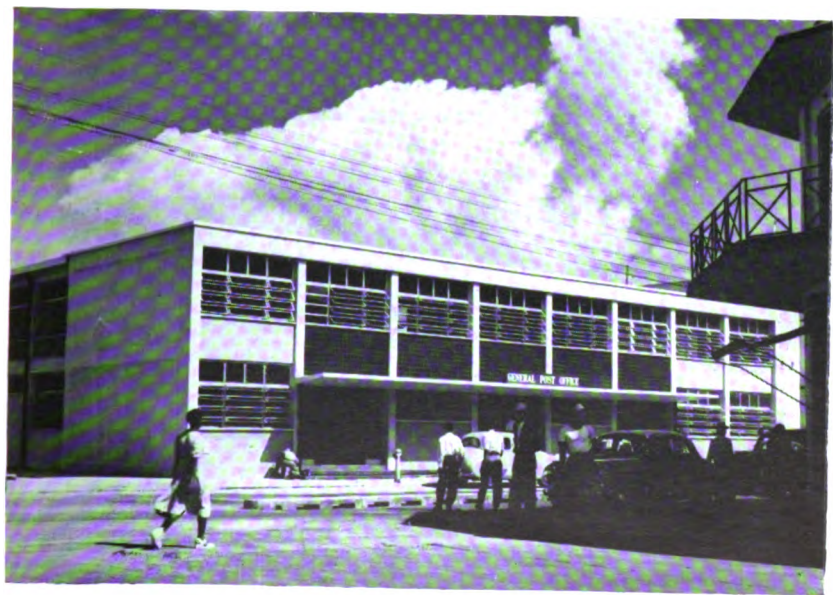
A view of Castries



Trans-insular road under construction



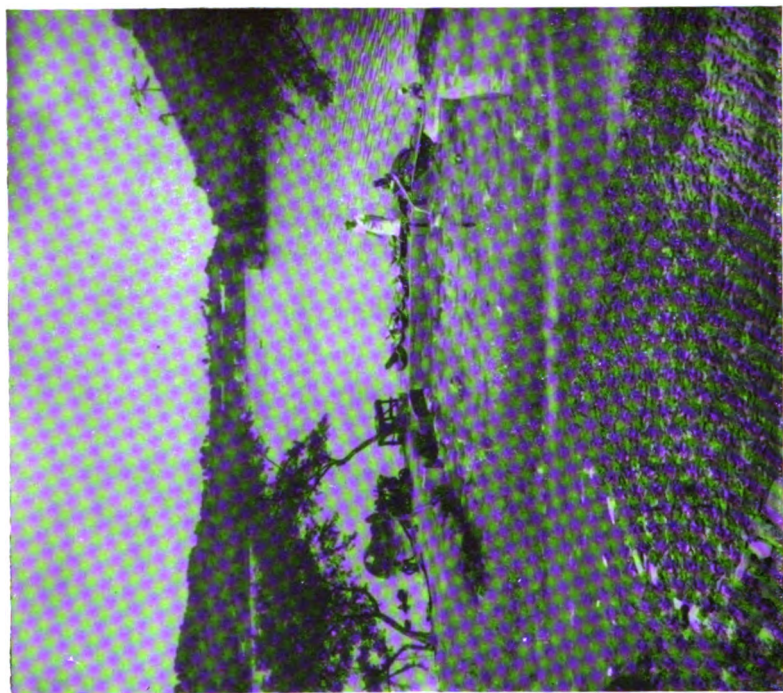
New Health Centre, Micoud



New General Post Office, Castries



Spraying Bananas



A Turtle Pond

Auxiliary Services

Auxiliary services are as follows:

The Sanitation Department is under a Senior Inspector with a Staff of nine Sanitary Inspectors, seven of whom possess the Royal Sanitary Institute (R.S.I.) Certificate.

Public Health Engineering is the charge of an Engineering Assistant. In January, 1956, a further grant of £24,900 from Colonial Development and Welfare funds was approved to continue public health engineering works for four years. The work consists mainly of drainage and anti-malarial work.

The Health Visitors Service is the charge of a Lady Health Visitor and three Public Health Nurses. One Nurse holds the R.S.I. Health Visitors Certificate, and one the Jamaica Local Health Visitors Certificate; the third has not yet been trained in public health work.

Dental Service is provided by one Dental Surgeon. Clinics are held daily in Castries and monthly or quarterly in the out-districts. In addition school-children are regularly inspected by the Dental Surgeon.

Malaria Eradication. In 1956 a further grant of £9,166 was approved to increase and extend the malaria eradication campaign which was started in 1953.

Health Centres are provided in the most populous areas. In 1956 £8,000 was granted from Colonial Development and Welfare funds to construct health centres in the following places: La Croix Maingot, Babonneau, Micoud, and Laborie. Construction was started in October, 1956. A fifth was started at the same time with funds from the subscriptions to the 1940 landslide disaster at L'Abbaye.

Vital Statistics

The mean population of the Island was estimated to have been:

1954	.	.	.	85,515
1955	.	.	.	87,185
1956	.	.	.	89,006

The following are some of the important vital statistics:

	1954	1955	1956
No. of deaths registered	1,028	1,034	1,127
Death rate	11.9	11.9	12.7
Infant Mortality rate per 1,000 births .	101.3	98.1	101.9
Birth rate per 1,000	36.1	40.7	40.1

Major Diseases

The commonest causes of morbidity in children are still helminthic diseases and malnutrition. During the year 12 cases of poliomyelitis were notified, 11 of these from the Canaries-Soufrière area.

The incident of gonorrhoea remained high, but it was hoped that this and other venereal diseases would be reduced when the anti-yaws campaign was instituted in 1957.

Tuberculosis is common.

HOUSING AND TOWN PLANNING

Castries Regional (First Supplementary) Scheme

The *Vide Bouteille Housing Scheme* was still incomplete, with items such as the laying of water mains, electricity, footpaths, drains and playing field still to be completed. In 1955, a certain portion of the footpaths and drains was constructed. It was to be hoped, however, that most of the remaining work would be carried out in 1957, provision for it having been included in that year's estimates. The Government is under a moral obligation to complete these works, the cost of which was included in the sale price of lots. During 1956, the remaining portion of the scheme was surveyed and divided into 48 building lots. Of these 42 were offered for sale and all were sold. The remaining six were awaiting the construction of footpaths and drains before being offered for sale.

Castries Regional (Fourth Supplementary) Scheme "A"

The area covered by this scheme was acquired by the Government in 1955, and redivided in 26 lots for sale. Development of the area was executed by the Castries Town Council with funds provided by the Government.

Soufrière Regional Scheme

On the 9th and 10th June, 1955, a fire destroyed about one-third of the town of Soufrière. A scheme to cover the town and environs, called the Soufrière Regional Scheme, and another called the Soufrière Regional (1st Supplementary) Scheme to cover the burnt out area, were approved by the Governor-in-Council. With a view to expansion and decongesting the town a portion of Palmiste Estate was purchased by the Government for erecting a Government low-cost housing estate. The object of this scheme is to afford shelter for the unfortunate inhabitants of Soufrière, who through circumstances were forced to, and still occupy, temporary shelters erected by the Government in the burnt area after the fire. Work on this low-cost scheme was progressing satisfactorily, and it was hoped that the transfer of tenants would take place during the first quarter of 1957. Reconstruction work under the schemes was expected to begin early in 1957 when the Executive Officer and staff would have been appointed.

SOCIAL WELFARE

Social welfare work is undertaken both by official and voluntary organisations. The Social Welfare Department created in 1946 was renamed the Public Relations and Social Welfare Department in 1951 as it had been handling information work since 1948. The Public Relations and Social Welfare Officer advises the Government on all welfare matters. He also administers public assistance and probation services and acts as liaison officer between government and voluntary organisations. The staff of the Department comprised the Public Relations and Social Welfare Officer, a part-time Relieving Officer, a Junior Clerk and a Messenger.

Youth Organisations

There are several youth clubs in the Colony and these are encouraged and assisted by the Public Relations and Social Welfare Department.

Boy Scouts and Girl Guides have been active throughout the Colony.

Voluntary Organisations

The St. Vincent de Paul Society and Ladies of Charity continued to do good work among the poor. In 1953 the St. Vincent de Paul Society acquired, from funds donated by Rev. Father Floissac, a new home for the poor to accommodate 22 males. Since then a new building to house 100 females has been constructed. Both these homes are run by the Roman Catholic Church but cater for all denominations.

The British Red Cross Society has been very active and pays special attention to the welfare of the inmates of the Mental Hospital, Leprosarium and the Home for the Aged and Infirm.

Relief

The Public Relations and Social Welfare Department is responsible for the relief of the aged, the infirm and children under the age of 14 years who are destitute. The number of persons who received outdoor relief and the amounts spent in 1955 and 1956 were as follows:

Year	No. of Cases	Amount
		\$
1955 . .	1,151	18,895.06
1956 . .	1,145	18,736.68

Assistance is given either as outdoor relief or by maintenance in the Home for the Aged and Infirm, which is managed by the Medical Department. An average of 140 inmates was maintained at the Home at the cost of \$23,226 in 1956.

There was no old-age pension scheme but 69 Friendly Societies provided their members with sick, burial and death benefits.

The Public Relations and Social Welfare Department ran a Boys' Club for under-privileged boys in the Castries area, where carpentry and other trades were taught.

Chapter 8: Legislation

THERE were 38 Ordinances and 54 Statutory Rules and Orders passed during 1955 and 38 Ordinances and 44 Statutory Rules and Orders during 1956.

1955

Of the Ordinances passed in 1955, 24 were amending Ordinances. The most important Ordinances were as follows:

The Congregation of the Sisters of St. Joseph de Cluny (Trustees) Ordinance appoints and incorporates trustees with power to hold lands and other property.

The Animal (Diseases and Importation) Ordinance controls the importation of animals, birds, reptiles and insects and regulates the treatment and disposal of animals which are suffering or are suspected to be suffering from any diseases. Under this Ordinance a person having a diseased animal must notify an Inspector appointed under the Ordinance who may order any diseased animal or animals suspected to be diseased to be destroyed.

No bird, reptile or insect may be imported into the Colony except under a licence granted by the Superintendent of Agriculture. Under the regulations to the Ordinance no cat or dog may be imported into the Colony except from certain countries and subject to conditions specified therein.

No fresh carcass whether frozen or chilled, cured or pickled of any cattle, pig, sheep or goat or any portion of such carcass may be imported into the Colony except from countries and under conditions in the regulations.

The Arbitration Ordinance provides that an arbitration agreement shall have the same effect as an Order of Court and enables the Court on application by a party to appoint an arbitrator. Provision is also made for the appointment of two or three arbitrators.

The Supreme Court Ordinance repeals the Royal Court Ordinance, 1916, and all amendments thereto and regulates the jurisdiction of the Court and the appointment and duties of searching officers.

The Affiliation Ordinance replaces the Summary Jurisdiction (Bastards) Ordinance and provides for the maintenance of illegitimate children.

1956

In 1956 a number of Bills were submitted under the Laws of St. Lucia (Reform and Revision) Ordinance, 1954, and were passed by the Legislature, as well as a number of other new Ordinances. Among the most important were:

The Government Pasturage Lands Ordinance which enables the Governor in Council to declare any lands owned or controlled by the Government to be Government Pasturage Lands; persons, on payment of a small fee, may pasture their animals on declared Government pasturage lands and also get the benefit of the services of a Livestock Officer.

The Separation and Maintenance Ordinance replaces the Summary Jurisdiction (Married Women) Ordinance, 1916, and brings the law on this subject up to date.

The Castries Town Council Ordinance consolidates the law relating to the Castries Town Board and changes its title to the Castries Town Council. This Ordinance removes the literary test for voters and introduces universal adult suffrage.

The Crown Proceedings Ordinance amends the law relating to certain liabilities and rights of the Crown and to Civil Proceedings by or against the Crown.

The Government Housing Loans Ordinance enables any employee of the Government and scheduled corporations to be eligible for a loan not

exceeding three times his annual salary, to assist him in acquiring, providing or improving housing accommodation for himself and his family and discharging encumbrances and charges.

The Civil Code Amendment Ordinance assimilates the Code to the Law of England where they differ in the light of the present needs of the Colony. This Ordinance will not come into force until the New Edition of the Laws of the Colony are brought into force and effect.

The Criminal Code Amendment Ordinance in certain respects introduces certain provisions in English Criminal Law and imposes certain restrictions on the power of a magistrate to impose imprisonment on conviction and non-payment of fine. This Ordinance is to be incorporated in and forms part of a New Edition.

Chapter 9: Justice, Police and Prisons

JUSTICE

It is convenient to begin a review of the law of St. Lucia from the capitulation of the island to General Grinfield on 22nd June, 1803, and the assurance to the inhabitants by Proclamation that they should continue in the enjoyment of their rights in accordance with the laws which existed immediately prior to the cession. The proclamation of 1803, therefore, continued the law and ordinances of the French monarchy as the law of the Colony, at least in civil matters.

In 1876 owing to uncertainty concerning the law in civil matters, the Civil Code Ordinance was passed, and by 1879 the Civil Code and Code of Civil Procedure were produced, based on the ancient law of the island with such amendments as the circumstances of the time required.

Broadly speaking, the law relating to commercial matters is based on principles of English law. The Code was compiled in 1916; it follows faithfully the lines of existing English statutes, and in that year, also, statutes of St. Lucia were revised and collected into two volumes called *The Revised Ordinances of St. Lucia, 1916*. Subordinate legislation was collected in a separate volume called *Revised Rules and Orders, 1916*. It was not till 1920 that the Criminal Code (Law and Procedure) made its appearance.

Since 1916 new laws, whether by way of amendment to the codes or otherwise, have been published in annual volumes of the Ordinances and Statutory Rules and Orders of St. Lucia.

For the administration of justice the island has been divided into three Judicial Districts. The District Courts of Judicature are presided over by Magistrates who exercise a summary jurisdiction in civil and criminal matters.

The present Superior Court was constituted by the Leeward Islands and Windward Islands (Courts) Order in Council, 1939, what was formerly the Royal Court becoming a circuit of the Supreme Court of the Windward

Islands and Leeward Islands. The Court has unlimited original jurisdiction in all civil or criminal matters, and Admiralty jurisdiction within the meaning and intent of the Colonial Courts of Admiralty Act, 1890, and an appellate jurisdiction over the District Courts. In civil matters which are exclusively assigned to the District Courts, the Supreme Court has no original jurisdiction.

The Windward Islands and Leeward Islands Court of Appeal hears appeals from the Supreme Court in civil and criminal matters in accordance with the rules contained in Statutory Rules and Orders 67 of 1940 as amended. Normally, at least three judges constitute the Court of Appeal, but the rules prescribe classes of appeals to be determined by two judges. The classes so far prescribed are continued in S.R. & O. No. 36 of 1941.

The West Indian Court of Appeal is an alternative court of appeal in certain matters.

In the Supreme Court in 1955, there were 28 criminal cases, four appeals and 87 civil cases. In 1956 there were 40 criminal cases, ten appeals and 61 civil cases. There was one appeal to the West Indian Court of Appeal in 1956.

Particulars of the Supreme Court criminal cases are shown in the following tables:

Supreme Court Criminal Cases in 1955 and 1956

	<i>Discharges</i>						<i>Convictions</i>					
	<i>Adults</i>		<i>Juveniles</i>		<i>Total</i>		<i>Adults</i>		<i>Juveniles</i>		<i>Total</i>	
	1955	1956	1955	1956	1955	1956	1955	1956	1955	1956	1955	1956
	12	6	—	—	12	6	21	38	—	1	21	39

Punishments Imposed by Supreme Court in 1955 and 1956

	<i>Fined</i>	<i>Whipped</i>	<i>Imprisonment</i>				<i>Bound Over</i>
			<i>Under 1 year</i>	<i>Up to 3 years</i>	<i>Over 3 Years</i>	<i>Life</i>	
1955	1	—	4	9	6	1	—
1956	1	—	12	10	13	—	2

POLICE

The Force is charged with the maintenance of law and order throughout the Island. It is armed and trained in semi-military duties and is liable to actual military service for the defence of the Colony against external aggression.

There were no civil disturbances during the period reviewed.

Auxiliaries

Authority exists for the enrolment of Rural Constables whose duties are to assist the regular police in such duties as effecting arrests, laying of information and escorting arrests. They receive no training, but payment is given when duties are performed. The strength at the end of 1955 was 242 and in 1956, 245.

Establishment and Organisation

The authorised establishment of the Force in 1955 and 1956 was:

- 1 Superintendent.
- 1 Deputy Superintendent.
- 1 Assistant Superintendent.
- 3 Inspectors.
- 1 Bandmaster.
- 5 Station Sergeants.
- 11 Sergeants.
- 27 Corporals.
- 154 Constables.
- 6 Band Cadets.

The Force is organised into three Divisions, sub-divided into 11 Police Stations. Police are responsible for the issue of motor vehicle licences and for firearms registration and licensing, for the inspection of motor vehicles, and for immigration and the Fire Service. The Superintendent of Police is Chief Immigration Officer and is in charge of the Fire Service. He is also Inspector of Weights and Measures.

Training

Up to October, 1956, recruit training was carried out locally. Nineteen recruits were enlisted in 1955 and 26 in 1956. Of the latter, 11 were sent to the Regional Police Training Centre in Barbados which opened on the 17th November, 1956.

The physical and educational standard of applicants for enlistment is slowly improving although it is difficult to attract men with secondary education.

Recreation

Canteens and a library are provided at Headquarters, Castries, and a small canteen in Vieux Fort.

Teams enter for the various football and cricket competitions and whist, billiards, tennis and table tennis are popular.

Band

The Band in addition to being in attendance at all official parades, provides concerts regularly throughout the Island and is most popular. In addition to his normal duties the Bandmaster holds music classes at Schools.

*Other Duties**Traffic and Licensing*

(i) Traffic Cases and Accidents:	1955	1956
Cases	321	327
Warnings	21	31
Accidents	162	151

There were four fatal accidents in 1955 and eight in 1956.

Sixty-seven persons were injured in 1955 and 84 in 1956.

(ii) Motor Vehicles, licences and permits:

Motor vehicles	682	745
Drivers	1,400	1,841
Learners' permits	582	460
Driving tests	182	298
Bicycles	496	776

Passports and Permits

The following travelling documents were issued:

Passports	1,025	1,090
Police permits	388	419
Emergency travel documents	45	10
Seamen's Certificates of nationality and identity	59	60
Certificates of identity	—	20
Affidavits	—	3

Crime

The total number of cases reported to the Police during 1955 was 4,073 and in 1956, 3,756.

Of the total for the years under review, 2,956 were true cases; 358 indictable and 2,598 non-indictable. Statistics of crime are given at Appendices II and III.

PRISONS

There is a prison for male offenders in Castries and one for female offenders at La Toc, approximately two miles from Castries.

The prison staff during 1955-56 comprised 26 officers, as follows:

- 1 Superintendent.
- 1 Chief Officer.
- 1 Principal Officer.
- 4 Officers, Grade 1.
- 17 Officers, Grade 2.
- 1 Matron.
- 1 Assistant Matron.

Officers' Training

During 1956 a programme of training for officers, based on the Wakefield System, was conducted by the Superintendent.

Prisoners' Education and Work

Adult education, based on the English system, was introduced into the prisons. The studies were received with great enthusiasm and the prisoners made very good progress.

Emphasis was placed on industrial training and a fairly high standard of work in cabinet-making, farming and upholstery was reached.

The prison farm made remarkable progress. Bananas, green vegetables and root vegetables were grown for consumption and some sold to the local market. The cost of maintenance was reduced considerably and the revenue of the Department made a small contribution to the economy of the Colony.

A coconut-fibre decorticator was erected in the prison and there was every sign that this new addition to the industry would contribute to revenue; coconut husks were previously destroyed for want of some useful purpose.

Costs

The cost of maintaining and operating the prisons was as follows:

	<i>Expenditure</i>	<i>Revenue</i>
	\$	\$
1952 . . .	44,697·82	4,510·50
1953 . . .	44,938·26	1,873·03
1954 . . .	44,396·00	4,155·64
1955 . . .	44,400·89	2,561·74
1956 . . .	48,452·42	12,084·54

*Chapter 10: Public Utilities and Public Works***WATER SUPPLY**

THE Castries waterworks draws its supply from surface water originating in a watershed situated some five miles from the town of Castries. At its inception a large forest reserve was created at the upper level of the watershed, and the supply was wholly a gravity one, but within recent years the necessity for extension has resulted in the inclusion in the system of a pumped supply not originating wholly in the water reserve.

At the headworks of the gravity supply, low diversion weirs across the streams at their upper reaches direct the water to screening chambers and thence to the purification plant through asbestos-cement and bitumen-lined steel pipes. In the case of the pumped supply, stream intakes constructed across the streams at lower elevations form a sump from which the water is pumped through similar pipes to the purification plant.

The waterworks system has recently undergone considerable extension and improvement to bring the capacity to 800,000 gallons per day, more than double the previous capacity. The change has been effected by reconstructing the gravity mains and installing five electrically-operated centrifugal well pumps in place of two former oil engine-driven centrifugal

pumps. The latter are still being retained for emergencies. The pumps operate against overall heads of 350 and 440 ft. from two pumping stations.

At the purification plant, raw matter is subjected to the following treatment—sedimentation with the help of a coagulant, filtration through rapid gravity filters, sterilisation by the ammonia-chlorine process and restoration of the PH valve by the use of hydrated lime.

Two service reservoirs provide storage for 800,000 gallons. Owing to the considerable difference of elevation between the central area of the town and the suburban area, the distribution mains operate under two different heads. Mains with hydrants for supplying shipping with water at rates up to about 10,000 gallons per hour are situated along the wharf. House connections are made at the householders' expense. A liberal number of street stand-pipes provide water for those homes which do not have a private service.

Every dwelling within the Castries water area pays a water rate, as do those outside that area which have a supply.

For fire protection, a salt-water main has been installed which supplements the fresh water mains. Its capacity is 1,200 gallons per minute, but it is confined to that part of the town zoned mainly for commerce, industry and offices.

The supply is controlled by the Castries Town Council.

ELECTRICITY

The Castries station, which was built in 1933, was extended in 1951 to house five generating sets.

The night peak load is carried by 140 kW., 150 kW. and 103·5 kW. sets with 103·5 kW. and 72 kW. sets as stand-by.

The numbers of consumers for the different services were as follows:

	No.
Lighting . . .	1,600
Domestic . . .	400
Power . . .	50

The total current sold is estimated at 1,500,000 units.

PUBLIC WORKS

Works Completed

Control Tower, Vigie Airport.
 Police Station, Canaries.
 Tuberculosis Sanatorium, Victoria Hospital.
 Re-piling of Cable Ship Berth.
 Re-sealing Vigie Airport Runway.
 Completion of Castries—Soufrière Road.
 Morne Bonin—Belle Plain Road.
 Morne—Roseau Road.
 Anse Galette Valley Road (first section).
 Abattoir, Gross Islet.
 Canaries River Causeway.

Chapter 11: Communications

SHIPPING

Main Ports and Anchorages

Port Castries Harbour is situated on the west coast of the island in latitude $14^{\circ} 01' N.$, longitude $61^{\circ} W.$, and is entered between Pointe D'Estross and Tapion Rock about three-and-a-half cables southward with the leading marks in line, bearing 121° true. There are depths from four to six fathoms throughout this channel which leads to the wharves.

The harbour can accommodate all but the largest vessels and is considered one of the most sheltered anchorages in the West Indies. There is unlimited anchorage in all but abnormal weather outside the harbour entrance in between ten and fifteen fathoms of water. Vessels of 25-ft. draught and under may anchor as convenient in the stream at the discretion of the Harbour Master. There are two transit sheds of a total area of 11,280 sq. ft. and an estimated capacity of 5,784 tons.

Wharves: (1) Northern Wharf, 640 ft. in length with an overall depth of 27 ft. alongside.

(2) Western Wharf, 500 ft. in length with an overall depth of three fathoms alongside.

(3) The Reclamation Cable Depot Wharf, length 600 ft., depth three fathoms at the western end to one fathom. This wharf is situated alongside Messrs. Cable & Wireless Ltd., Cable Depot and is reserved for the use of Cable Ships when in port.

For further details see page 144, *West Indies Pilot, Vol. II.*

Buoys: (1) A Warping Buoy is moored about one cable north-eastward of the light structure on the western end of the Northern Wharf.

(2) Rendezvous Buoy: A red spherical buoy, with white top, known as Rendezvous Buoy, is moored about half a cable eastward of the 24-ft. patch and about two cables southward of Point Serafin. It is at present temporarily anchored with a five-ton anchor.

Tidal Information

(1) Rise and fall of tide.

(a) Ordinary springs, 2 ft.

(b) Ordinary neaps, 1 ft.

(2) Rise of ordinary neaps above L.W.O.S., 1 ft. 6 in.

Aids to Navigation

Vigie Light: Elevation, 320 ft. Gp. Fl. 20 every 10 secs. vis. 24 miles.

Tapion Light: Elevation, 50 ft. White Occ. in 15 secs. vis. 5 miles.

Leading Lights: Leading lights are exhibited, the front light at an elevation of 43 ft. from a white iron framework structure surmounted by a white triangle, situated on West Wharf at Castries; and the rear light,

at an elevation of 110 ft. from a red iron framework structure, surmounted by a white diamond situated about $4\frac{1}{2}$ cables south-eastward of the front light.

Shell Petroleum Marketing Co. Pier: A white light is exhibited from the head of the pier, extending Coconut Point about 20 yds. southward of Coconut Shoal Beacon.

At corner of Western and Northern Wharves, fixed green vis. 1 mile.

Occasional Lights. Coconut Shoal Beacon, fixed green vis. 1 mile. Vielle Ville Shoal Beacon, fixed red vis. 1 mile.

Vieux-Fort Anchorage

Vieux-Fort, situated at the south-eastern extremity of the island in latitude $13^{\circ} 43' N.$, longitude $60^{\circ} 57' W.$, provides a safe anchorage except when the wind is in a southerly direction. The bay, which was used during the last war for delivering supplies to the American Army Base, has a pier 1,150 ft. long, and is now used by the four chartered refrigerated ships loading bananas for the United Kingdom every seven days, the Three Bays Line ships, and barges. At the head of the pier there is a depth of 31 ft. alongside and vessels with a draught of 18 ft. and 500 ft. in length can berth on either side of the outer end.

Facilities also exist for the supply of water and this port is used as a port of entry. Anchorage is provided in eight fathoms of water south-west of the pier.

Aids to Navigation

(a) Moule-a-Chique Light situated on Morne Pavillion in latitude $13^{\circ} 43' N.$, longitude $60^{\circ} 57' W.$

(b) Beacon (unlighted) marks two-fathom patch on port side of channel.

SHIPPING SERVICES

The following lines called at St. Lucia during 1955 and 1956:

External

Canadian National Steamships Co.

Average 4 times a month to Canada and British Guiana via Islands with passengers and cargo.

Alcoa Steamships Co. Inc.

Average 4 times a month to U.S.A. and Canada via Islands with passengers and cargo.

T. & J. Harrison Line.

Average once a month to Europe via Islands with cargo only.

The Antilles Steamships Co.

Chartered refrigerator ships for banana trade to United Kingdom via Dominica every ten days.

Compagnie Generale Transatlantique.

Average once a month to Europe via Islands with passengers and cargo.

Royal Netherlands Steamships Co.

Average once a month with transshipment cargo from Trinidad to Islands.

Three Bays Line.

Average once every ten days with refrigerated cargo from Puerto Rico to British Guiana via Islands.

West Indian Navigation Co.

Average twice monthly from Jamaica to British Guiana via Islands with cargo and passengers.

Local Shipping**M.V. Daerwood**

Twice a month to Barbados, St. Vincent, Grenada and occasionally to Curaçao and Aruba with passengers and cargo.

M.V. Fernwood

Twice a month to St. Vincent, Barbados, Grenada and occasionally to Curaçao and Aruba.

M.V. Lady Joy

Average twice a month to Barbados with passengers and cargo.

M.V. Michael David

Average four times a month to Barbados, St. Vincent, Grenada, Trinidad.

Aux. Sch. Grenville Lass

Average weekly to Martinique, leaving Castries on Tuesday and returning on Friday.

Other Sailing Vessels, Auxiliary Schooners and Sloops

To the Islands mainly Barbados, Trinidad, St. Vincent, Grenada, at an average of 12 times a month.

In addition, the following lines called at St. Lucia during 1956:

Fratellie-Grimaldi.

Trinidad to Islands every two months on an average.

Linea C.

Average once a month with passengers only to Europe via Islands.

Statistics of Ships Using Ports

1955

Description	Number	Net Tonnage	Gross Tonnage
Warships	3	2,928·08	6,424
Army Ship, R.A.S.C.	1	180	180
Minesweepers	3	1,005	1,005
Motor Ships	134	285,434·35	513,129·54
Steamers	59	156,489·19	260,939
Motor Vessels	157	15,588	27,567·18
Tankers	6	9,870	17,939
Cable Ships	8	4,504	12,304
Yachts	164	3,115·83	4,634·20
Auxiliary Schooners	164	4,595	5,888
Auxiliary Sloops	41	927	1,084
Sailing Vessels	198	6,701·13	8,415·11
Launches	8	44	51
Fishing Canoes	5	11·05	13·05
Whaler	1	2	2
Total	907	491,894·63	859,574·08

1956

Description	Number	Net Tonnage	Gross Tonnage
Warships	2	5,868	13,548
Landing Barges	13	35,106	41,305
Survey Ships	1	3,000	3,000
Minesweepers	1	280	280
Cable Ships	13	7,693	21,582
Tankers	15	22,498	41,733
R.A.S.C.	1	180	478
Tugs	2	1,650	1,650
Steamers	59	160,028	273,357
Motor Ships	182	350,142	647,871
Motor Vessels	176	13,574	22,843
Yachts	225	4,134	5,481
Auxiliary Schooners	155	6,812	8,388
Auxiliary Sloops	22	677	765
Launches	2	6	8
Sailing Vessels	170	6,157	7,714
Fishing Canoes	3	3	4
Total	1,042	617,808	1,090,007

There were 5,729 inward passengers and 6,313 outward in 1955; 5,819 inward and 6,551 outward in 1956; inward freight was 22,122 tons and outward 24,470 tons in 1955, and 26,651 tons and 28,371 tons in 1956.

ROADS

The mileage of different types of road is as follows:

	Miles
Main roads	111.92
Second class roads	95.90
Unclassified and district roads	170.60

During the three years 1954-56, some 35 miles of new roads were constructed. During the early part of the programme all construction work was concentrated on the Anse Galette-Quatre Chemins Road so as to speed up the opening up of this highway between Castries and Soufrière, via the windward coast. Work on new roads selected for construction commenced as soon as new plant and equipment ordered arrived in the Colony, and satisfactory progress has been made in carrying out the feeder road programme. The following projects were tackled during the period under review:

(1) Morne Bonin-Belleplaine	completed
(2) Fond St. Jacques-Murray Road (first section)	under construction
(3) Angere-Desruisseaux-Beausejour	under construction
(4) Morne Roseau	completed
(5) Millet-Venus	under construction
(6) Anse Galette Valley Road (first section)	completed
(7) Volet-Mahaut-Palmiste	under construction
(8) Pillet-Bonavista-Bosquet d'or	under construction
(9) Canaries Valley Road	under construction
(10) Fond d'Assau	under construction
(11) Crown Lands-Marc	under construction
(12) Marchand-Forestierre	under construction
(13) Warwick-Saltibus	under construction

AIR

There are two airports: Vigie Airport, two miles from Castries; and Beane Field Airport, about 40 miles from Castries. The latter was put back into use by the United States Authorities in September, 1954. The Vigie runway is of asphalt 4,500 ft. $\times$ 250 ft. Beane Field has two runways both of concrete and 5,000 ft. $\times$ 250 ft.

Movements at Vigie were as follows in 1956:

	<i>In</i>	<i>Out</i>	<i>In Transit</i>	<i>Total</i>
Aircraft	573	573	—	1,146
Passengers	3,478	3,371	2,604	9,453

POSTS

External

During 1955 and 1956, British West Indian Airways continued their service connecting the British and French West Indian Islands from Jamaica to British Guiana. They also called at British Honduras.

Connections to Dominica and St. Vincent were made via Barbados by Grumman aircraft twice weekly.

Air mails to the U.S.A. and Canada, Curaçao, Aruba and Cayenne were forwarded as closed despatches via Trinidad; air mails for the United Kingdom were forwarded via Trinidad and Barbados to connect with B.O.A.C. planes.

Flights by K.L.M. planes throughout the years provided mailing opportunities to Curaçao and Aruba.

The volume of air mail correspondence continued to increase rapidly.

Surface mail to and from the United Kingdom was conveyed by banana-carrying steamers of the Swedish Line, the S.S. *Windward Islands* and *Leeward Islands* which called at Vieux Fort every fortnight, and from the 29th November, 1956, two additional steamers, the *Martha Reuter* and M.V. *Brake* calling at Castries fortnightly, augmented this service, with the result that there is now a weekly service to and from the United Kingdom and St. Lucia.

The S.S. *West Indian* provided a monthly service calling at all ports from Puerto Rico to British Guiana and intervening islands.

Surface mail for Canada and the U.S.A. was conveyed by steamers of the Alcoa Steamship Company, Canadian National Steamship Company, and by motor vessels sailing via Barbados and Trinidad.

A few motor vessels connected St. Lucia with the Leeward Islands.

Steamers of the French Line continued to ply between Martinique and St. Lucia and between Martinique and French Guiana via the Southern Islands during 1955 and 1956.

Internal

Internal communication between towns and villages was carried out by motor bus (under contract) between Castries and Vieux Fort, calling at Dennery, Micoud, Patience and Vieux Fort. Communication with the

other coastal towns and villages was by two motor vessels (under contract), plying between Castries, Canaries, Anse-la-Ray, Soufrière, Choiseul and Laborie five times per week. These services provided for carriage of mails, cargo and passengers. A number of motor buses run by private enterprise also plied between Castries and the coastal towns.

During 1955 two new sub-Post Offices, namely Bexon and Fond St. Jacques, were established to serve the residents in those areas. In the following year four sub-Post Offices were established, namely Marchand, Roseau, La Clery and Desruisseaux.

Postal Work

A new Air Letter Form, impressed with the facsimile of the current 10 cent stamp bearing the portrait of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, was placed on sale on 14th November, 1955.

Stamps of 3 cent and 12 cent denominations commemorating the inauguration of the University College of the West Indies, were withdrawn from sale on the 31st day of July, 1956. Stamps of 5 cent, 6 cent, 12 cent and 24 cent denominations commemorating the 75th Anniversary of the Universal Postal Union were withdrawn from sale in June, 1955. There were no new issues during the years reviewed.

Total sales of stamps in 1955 amounted to \$64,504·00. The total revenue was \$70,592·00. Sales of stamps by the Crown Agents totalled \$10,777·00 in 1955.

The number of parcels received in 1955 was 11,309; 1,436 were despatched. In 1956 the number received was 11,342 as against 1,568 despatched.

The amount of import duty collected on parcels in 1955 was \$76,689·00, as against \$77,709·00 in 1954. Approximately \$76,643 was collected in 1956.

The value of U.S. Money Orders paid in St. Lucia in 1955 was \$68,602 and approximately \$58,730 in 1956.

The number of telegraphic Money Orders received for payment from the United Kingdom in 1955 was 10 of a value of \$835·00. In 1956, 111, amounting to \$11,482·00 were received and paid in St. Lucia.

In 1955, the number of telegraphic Money Orders despatched from St. Lucia to the United Kingdom was seven of a value of \$485·00. Six were despatched in 1956 of a value of \$427·00.

Owing to business and trade generally, and also to emigration to the United Kingdom, the work of the Post Office increased enormously. The number and value of Money Orders and Postal Orders received from the United Kingdom from immigrants alone increased almost five-fold.

In 1955, 6,996 Postal Orders valued at \$36,835·00 was paid, as compared with 18,346 of a value of \$145,546·00 in 1956.

The mercantile community and the public in general are making great use of the air mail facilities and the parcel post service.

There is now a daily air mail service except on Sundays.

TELEPHONES

During the period under review the most outstanding achievement was the completion of the installation of the new central battery system in Castries, which was officially opened on the 31st January, 1956, by the Governor.

About 100 new telephones were installed in 1956, which resulted in an increase in revenue of some \$2,500. Telephone rent was also increased, from \$2.52 to \$3.00 per month for residents and from \$3.00 to \$4.00 for the commercial community.

Public telephones were installed in the following isolated areas:

Monchy, Bas Denis, Bouton, Etangs, Victoria, Desruisseaux, Augier and La Ressource.

Since the installation of the new system in Castries, overseas calls can be made direct from homes or offices.

Chapter 12: Press, Broadcasting, Films and Government Information Services

PRESS

NEWSPAPERS published in the Colony are:

The Voice of St. Lucia, established in 1885, weekly.

The West Indian Crusader, founded in 1934, weekly.

The St. Lucia Gazette, issued by the St. Lucia Government every Saturday.

BROADCASTING

There is no broadcasting service in St. Lucia, but one for the Windward Islands, with headquarters in Grenada, has been established with Colonial Development and Welfare funds.

FILMS

No films are produced in the Colony.

There are five commercial cinemas, where American and British films are shown. The Public Relations and Social Welfare Department gives film shows (news and documentary) throughout the island.

INFORMATION SERVICES

The Public Relations Office explains the policies, actions and achievements of the Government, and supplies any information which the public may require.

Press communiqués, handouts and administrative reports were issued to the press and the public; and feature articles, booklets and photographs of topical interest supplied by the Central Office of Information, London, were distributed to schools, local authorities, youth organisations, libraries and public places. The press made good use of this material as well as of items from the London Press Service.

Nine communal receiving sets, purchased with Colonial Development and Welfare funds, were installed in rural areas.

British and American news shorts were shown by the commercial cinemas, and filmstrips and 16-mm. documentaries were shown in the schools and rural areas. Filmstrips are loaned to schools and other interested groups.

The work of the Department is carried out by the Public Relations and Social Welfare Officer (who is also Probation Officer) and a Junior Clerk.

PART III

Chapter 1: Geography and Climate

GEOGRAPHY

ST. LUCIA is one of the curved chain of volcanic islands which comprise the Lesser Antilles. It is situated between the longitude limits $60^{\circ} 53' W.$ and $61^{\circ} 05' W.$ and the latitude limits $13^{\circ} 43' N.$ and $14^{\circ} 07' N.$ It lies approximately halfway between St. Vincent to the south and the French island of Martinique to the north. Its greatest length north to south is 27 miles; its greatest breadth 14 miles. Its area of 238 square miles is a little more than that of the Isle of Man.

The island is mountainous, the highest peak being Mt. Gimie (3,145 ft.). The most spectacular mountains are the Gros Piton (2,619 ft.) and the Petit Piton (2,461 ft.), which are old, volcanic, forest-clad cones rising sheer out of the sea near the town of Soufrière on the leeward coast. A few miles away in an ancient crater are dark coloured, hot, bubbling sulphurous springs, an indication of the decadent volcanic activity of this district. The mountains are intersected by numerous short rivers. In places, these rivers debouch into broad, fertile and well cultivated valleys.

The mountainous build and forested nature of the island have virtually restricted settlement to the coastal areas. The capital, Castries, is situated on a fine, sheltered deep-water harbour. The towns, Soufrière, Vieux Fort, and the villages, Anse-la-Raye, Dennery, Micoud, Canaries, Laborie, Gros Islet, Choiseul are all on the coast.

Motorable roads connect Castries with all the main centres of population. There is regular coastal communication on the leeward side of the island; sloops and schooners also ply an inter-island trade from Castries. Modern conditions—especially the increasing use of oil-burning vessels—have led to the decline of the formerly important coaling industry in Castries. The harbour is still an important port of call for ocean-going liners and naval craft.

CLIMATE

The island lies in latitudes where the north-east trade winds are almost a constant influence. The rainfall varies considerably, being greatest in the interior mountain regions; for example, it averages about 158 in. in Quillesse (central interior) and about 70 in. in Vieux Fort (south coast).

The first four months of the year tend to be the driest. During the rest of the year there is much variation, but there is an insufficiency of reliable data to draw sound conclusions. Reliable temperature figures are not available. Generally speaking it can be said that the temperature rarely

exceeds 90° F. and seldom falls below 70° F. except in the higher altitudes. The daily range is small. At Morne Fortune (Castries, 845 ft.) wind percentage figures show that 90 per cent of the winds come from the east, east-north-east, and north-east, a constancy of direction which is reflected in the fact that Castries airport has a one-directional air strip.

Chapter 2: History

So scant is the information on the early history of St. Lucia that the date of discovery is uncertain, for according to the known evidence of Columbus' voyages, he appears to have missed the island. Recent archaeological finds in various parts of the island may yet contribute to our knowledge about the Caribs, the aboriginal inhabitants of the island, who resisted the early attempts at European settlement.

The first known attempt at settlement was made in 1605 when the *Olive Branch*, driven off course when *en route* for Guiana, landed its 67 passengers under the command of Captain Nicholas St. John. On the ship's departure the colonists were attacked by the Caribs and, after several days' severe fighting, the 19 survivors took to their boat. The island was included in the grant made to the Earl of Carlisle by Charles I in July, 1627, and a more determined attempt at settlement was made in 1638 when 130 colonists arrived from Bermuda and Major Judge was appointed Governor. Though reinforcements arrived in 1639 and 1640, the colonists were unable to withstand the Carib attackers, and the island was again abandoned in 1641.

Meanwhile the French developed an interest in the island, which they claimed was included in a grant made by Cardinal Richelieu to M. d'Esnambuc in October, 1626. In 1643 M. du Parquet, Lieutenant-General of Martinique, appointed M. Rousselan Governor of St. Lucia. M. Rousselan, who married a Carib, maintained his authority till his death in 1654, but his successors had brief and tragic careers. In 1660, however, local treaties were negotiated by the French Governors of St. Christopher and Guadeloupe and the British Governors of Nevis, Antigua and Montserrat on the one hand and between the French and the Caribs on the other; these treaties left the French in possession of St. Lucia and the possibility of peaceful co-existence arose. But in 1663 Francis Lord Willoughby reached Barbados as Governor and as heir to the English Patent and to the problem of finding accommodation for Barbados' surplus population. Barbados not being party to the 1660 treaty, he utilised the services of "Indian" Warner to purchase St. Lucia from the Caribs and the following year, 1664, sent an expedition under Colonel Carew to occupy the island, the French Governor capitulating without a shot being fired. The settlement proved a failure and, on the English withdrawal from the island early in 1666, the French resumed

occupation. But the wars of 1673 and 1688, the attacks of the English and the lack of assistance received by the settlement from Martinique forced a French withdrawal in turn.

In 1718 a fresh grant of the island was made by the French regent, the Duke of Orleans, to Marechal D'Estrees, who attempted to settle it with refugees. British objections were raised to this grant and in 1722 George I granted St. Lucia and St. Vincent to the Duke of Montagu. An expedition under Nathaniel Uring was fitted out at great expense to consolidate this grant; but local French opposition proved too strong and the expedition was forced to withdraw early in 1723 on the signature of an agreement that subsequent to the British withdrawal the French would also evacuate and leave the island in its former state till a decision should be reached between the two Crowns.

The next attempt at settlement was made in 1744, when England and France being once again at war, the Marquis de Champigny, Governor of Martinique, established a garrison there under M. de Longueville as military commandant. The Treaty of Aix la Chapelle in 1748 in theory once more restored the *status quo ante*; in practice, however, M. de Longueville remained as civil commandant till his death in 1761, when he was succeeded by his nephew. Meanwhile English and French commissaries disputed at length the respective rights of their nations to the island.

In February, 1762, war having once again broken out, the island surrendered to Captain Hervey, one of Lord Rodney's staff; but at the Treaty of Paris in 1763 the island was finally assigned to France. With security of tenure at last, apparently, assured, the French proceeded rapidly with its development and fortification. The fortifications were strengthened by the construction of the massive forts on Morne Fortune and the capital was removed to its present site from Le Petit Carenage in the Castries harbour on the Vigie peninsula. But the island was not yet due for a period of peaceful progress; with one of the finest small harbours in the Caribbean its military importance was such that it immediately became a target when war broke out, and its improved defences only ensured that subsequent fighting should be more bloody. In December, 1778, a strong British expedition surprised and captured the island and French relieving forces under Count d'Estaing were beaten off. Lord Rodney was so impressed by the strategic potentialities of the island as a naval base that he wrote at length in May, 1778, to the Earl of Sandwich stressing the importance of retaining the island (his letter is reproduced in full in H. H. Breen's *St. Lucia*), and it was from St. Lucia that he sailed in 1782 to win his great Battle of the Saints over the French under de Grasse. But in 1783 it was agreed in the Treaty of Versailles that the island should once again be restored to France, though the British continued in possession till January, 1784.

When war broke out again, an expedition was sent from England to the West Indies under Admiral Jervis. This force surprised the French and captured St. Lucia in April, 1794. France at this time was in the throes of its revolution and in February, 1794, a decree had been promulgated for the abolition of slavery in the French Antilles. On the surrender of

St. Lucia many of the ex-slaves and a number of French soldiers escaped into the woods whence, with the aid of planters of republican sympathies, they harassed the British. In June, 1794, Victor Hugues arrived in Guadeloupe as representative of the National Convention, and he so succeeded in organising and inspiring the disaffected that they compelled the depleted British garrison to withdraw in 1795. A strong British force under General Abercrombie reconquered the fortifications after severe fighting in the summer of 1796; but it was not till the end of 1797 that guerilla warfare ceased and the "Armée française dans les bois" surrendered at discretion.

By the Treaty of Amiens in 1802 the island was yet once more returned to France. But with the resumption of hostilities it again became the object of British attack and it was captured in June, 1803. Since then St. Lucia has remained without interruption under British rule, and it was finally ceded to Britain by the Treaty of Paris in 1814.

Till 1838 St. Lucia was administered as a separate administrative unit, its Governor being in direct correspondence with the Colonial Office. In 1838 it was annexed to the Government of the Windward Islands, then comprising Barbados, Grenada, St. Vincent and Tobago with the seat of the government at Barbados. Though from time to time since then the composition and the seat of government of the Windward Islands has changed, St. Lucia has always remained a member.

An important event in St. Lucia's history was the establishment of two United States bases under the 1940 Anglo-American agreement. In 1950 one of these bases—at Beane Field—was "de-activated" and the Government assumed control by agreement. This base was brought back into use as from September, 1954.

When the French claim to the island was conceded in 1763, their first aim was to develop the colony as an entrepôt centre. But estates were also planted with coffee, cocoa and cotton; the first sugar estate was established in 1765 and sugar gradually obtained pre-eminence in the Colony's economy. As British annexation came when talk of emancipation was in the air, and as it was followed by the Emancipation Act in 1833, economic development was slow; but later in the century, with the advent of steamships, the Colony became an important coaling station, an activity which reached its peak during the 1914-18 war; with the change over to oil-burning vessels this trade has declined.

On the whole St. Lucia has escaped the hurricanes, earthquakes and other visitations of nature which have caused so much damage in the other West Indian Islands. The first recorded instance of a hurricane visiting the island occurred in 1675; it was visited by severe hurricanes in 1780 and 1817—the latter blowing down Government House and burying the Governor and many others in the ruins. The latest major disaster up to the period under report was the fire of 9th June, 1955, which destroyed three-fifths of Soufrière, the second town.

Chapter 3: Administration

CENTRAL GOVERNMENT

IN March, 1956, a new constitution incorporating the Ministerial system came into force. The constitution then existing, which was prescribed by Windward Islands Letters Patent 1951 to 1954, was amended by Windward Islands Letters Patent 1955, and allows a much wider measure of self-government. Under this new constitution the Executive Council is recognised as the instrument of policy, and the Governor or the Administrator normally accepts the Council's advice unless he deems it expedient to do so otherwise in the interest of public faith, public order and good government.

The Executive Council consists of:

- (i) the Governor, who normally presides when he is in the Colony ;
- (ii) three *ex officio* members—the Administrator, who presides in the Governor's absence, the Crown Attorney and the Financial Secretary;
- (iii) if the Executive Council shall so resolve, one member being a person holding a public office in the Island, styled the official member;
- (iv) one member, being a nominated member of the Legislative Council of the Island, who is styled the nominated member; and
- (v) four members, being elected members of the Legislative Council of the Island and chosen by the Legislative Council.

In March, 1956, three elected members of the Executive Council were appointed Ministers by the Governor in Council as follows:

The Minister for Trade and Production.

The Minister for Communications and Works.

The Minister for Social Services.

Each Minister is responsible in the Legislative Council for matters affecting the government departments which deal with the subjects assigned to him.

Full responsibility for administration, labour, police and information remains with the Administrator; legal matters with the Crown Attorney; and financial matters with the Administrator through the Financial Secretary.

The law-making body is the Legislative Council, reconstituted in 1951 by the St. Lucia (Legislative Council) Order in Council, 1951, and consisting of the Administrator as President, the Crown Attorney and the Financial Secretary as *ex officio* members, three nominated members and eight elected members. The office of Deputy President was filled by a member elected by the Council from among the nominated and elected members. Elections to the Legislative Council are conducted on the basis

of universal suffrage, but an elector must have a residential qualification of at least 12 months in the Colony before the date of his registration as an elector, or be domiciled in the Colony.

The members of the Executive and Legislative Councils in the period under review are listed in the Appendix to this chapter.

A Standing Committee on Finance, of which the Administrator and Financial Secretary are *ex officio* members, was established by Rule 35 of the Legislative Council Rules. All unofficial members of the Legislative Council are members of this Committee of which the Administrator is *ex officio* chairman, but only the unofficial members may vote.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Town and Village Councils

There are three Town Councils and seven Village Councils in St. Lucia. With the exception of the Castries Town Council, which is a wholly elected body fast approaching full municipal status, their functions are very restricted largely on account of lack of revenue. With the availability of readier access by road to town and village areas in the last two years, it is already apparent that local government responsibility is gradually increasing as development is accelerated. Thus it can be said that some progress was made in 1955-56. The number of persons seeking election to these councils indicates the interest which is being awakened in people in the various communities.

Castries Town Council

This Council, which until 1956 was known as the Castries Town Board, is a wholly elected body of nine members, and its history dates back to 1890, with a claim to being one of the oldest of its kind in the British West Indies.

Elections are held annually, one third of the members retiring every year in rotation, but are eligible for re-election. The members select their own Chairman annually, but the retiring Chairman is eligible for re-election for two consecutive years.

Since 1951, elections to the Council have been held on the basis of universal adult suffrage with a literacy test based on the adult's ability to sign his name.

Among the services which the Council provides for its citizens are water, electricity and sewerage. Within recent years the water and lighting areas have been increased substantially and since 1955 a sewerage service with the Council as Sewerage Authority has been provided for the town. Rural street lighting from the Council's supply, but financed by the Central Government, is now a common feature in the immediate surroundings of the town.

APPENDIX

MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

Chairman:

The Governor (when present in the Colony).
The Administrator.

Official Members:

The Crown Attorney.
The Financial Secretary.
E. S. Gittens (Assistant Administrator).

Elected Members:

G. F. L. Charles (Minister for Social Services).
H. B. Collymore (Minister for Communications and Works).
C. G. D. LaCorbiniere (Minister for Trade and Production).
C. A. M. Compton.

Nominated Member:

M. C. Salles-Miquelle.

MEMBERS OF LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

President:

The Administrator.

Official Members:

The Crown Attorney.
The Financial Secretary.

Nominated Members:

M. C. Salles-Miquelle.
M. Grace Augustin.
J. F. M. J. Devaux.

Elected Members:

G. F. L. Charles (representing the Third Electoral District) South Castries.
H. B. Collymore (representing the Second Electoral District) North Castries.
C. G. D. LaCorbiniere (representing the First Electoral District) Central Castries.
H. E. Belmar, O.B.E. (representing the Fourth Electoral District) Anse-la-Raye and Canaries.
J. M. D. Bousquet (representing the Fifth Electoral District) Soufrière.
C. A. M. Compton (representing the Seventh Electoral District) Vieux Fort and Laborie.
J. G. M. Compton (representing the Eighth Electoral District) Dennery and Micoud.
I. G. John (representing the Sixth Electoral District) Choiseul.

Chapter 4: Weights and Measures

THE standard measures recognised by the laws of St. Lucia are the Imperial yard, the Imperial pound, and Imperial gallon.

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- Report on the Causes and Circumstances of the Fire in Castries, St. Lucia, on the 19th and 20th June, 1948*. By Mr. Justice A. V. Crane.
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APPENDIX I

Colonial Development and Welfare Schemes Initiated or in Progress in 1955 and 1956

<i>Scheme No.</i>	<i>Grant</i>	<i>Title</i>
	\$	
D13D(ad)	960·00	Playing fields at Babonneau, Bellevue, Monchy and Mon Repos.
D13E(h)	480·00	Playing fields at Gros Islet and Anse-la-Raye.
D13E(l)	288·00	Concrete Block-making Machine.
D13E(m)	1,920·00	Produce Market at Choiseul.
D13E(r)	1,080·00	Communal Radio Receivers.
D734D & E	133,440·00	Executive Architect and Staff.
D957	4,800·00	Laboratory Equipment for St. Mary's College.
D969B	33,950·40	Additional Engineering Staff, Public Works Department.
D1000 & A	88,804·80	Health Centres.
D1108 (281)	2,188·80	Training of two students at Eastern Caribbean Farm Institute.
D1108 (341)	1,200·00	Training of Nurse Payne in Jamaica.
D1108 (407)	1,382·40	Training of Nurse Husbands in Jamaica.
D1108 (410)	705·60	Training in Airport Management, Trinidad.
D1108 (412)	523·20	Training in Mental Hospital Administration, Barbados.
D1108 (425)	1,262·40	Training of three Students at Eastern Caribbean Farm Institute.
D1108 (426)	710·40	Training in Bacteriological Work, Jamaica.
D1108 (431)	806·40	Training of Sister Taylor in Jamaica.
D1283 & A & B	63,614·40	Public Health Engineering Staff.
D1291 & A	25,392·00	Conservator of Forests, Windward Islands.
D1330	42,774·00	Investigation and Demonstration Centre, La Fargue.
D1428 A & B	30,004·80	Public Health Engineering Unit Works.
D1649 & A-C	131,280·00	St. Lucia Feeder Road Programme; Plant and Staff.
D1731 & A-C	31,147·20	Salary, etc. of Financial Secretary.
D1735	51,504·00	Expansion of Sugar Production.
D1767	19,200·00	Re-organisation of Banana Industry.
D1767B (Loan)	38,400·00	Rehabilitation of Banana Industry.
D1840	27,792·00	Staff and Equipment, Feeder Road Programme.
D1869 & A-C	101,952·00	Insect Control Programme.
D1985	2,923,200·00	Castries Reconstruction.
D1998 & A-D	328,680·00	Completion of the Anse Gallette-Quatre Chemin Road.
D2057	54,892·80	Development of Timber Industry.
D2091 & A	105,120·00	Appointment of Development Commissioner.
D2097	8,784·00	Recurrent Administration Expenditure, Eastern Caribbean Farm Institute.
D2162 & A	313,440·00	Livestock Improvement.
D2163 & A	296,160·00	Cocoa Propagation.
D2164 & A	355,200·00	Investigation and Demonstration (Agriculture).

D2165 & A	670,080·00	Agricultural Staff.
D2210 & A & B	686,817·60	Feeder Road Programme.
D2335	1,440·00	Maintenance and Operation of Fish Farm.
D2454 (Loan)	24,000·00	Credit facilities, St. Lucia Banana Growers.
D2485	3,408·00	Assistance towards payment of Fees at Public Health Training Centre, Jamaica.
D2505	7,200·00	Construction of Marquis Estate Link Road.
D2524 & A	11,179·20	Training of Teachers at Erdiston College, Barbados.
D2556 & A	91,680·00	Purchase and re-conditioning of Agricultural Department Tractor.
D2586	34,430·40	Conservator of Forests, Windward Islands.
D2609 & A	95,731·20	Additional Public Works Department Staff.
D2633	5,280·00	Purchase and Erection of Wet Sugar Mill, Monchy.
D2658(31)	1,632·00	Public Health Course in United Kingdom for Dr. A. V. Wells.
D2658(32)	960·00	Training of T. F. Hinkson in Public Administration, Jamaica.
D2658(38)	1,766·40	Training of two students at Eastern Caribbean Farm Institute.
D2658(56)	1,996·80	Training in Accountancy, Trinidad.
D2658(62)	2,966·40	Training in Air Traffic Control, United Kingdom.
D2658(63)	3,907·20	Training of two students at Eastern Caribbean Farm Institute.
D2658(64)	1,488·00	Training in Co-operatives, Jamaica.
D2717(20)	2,400·00	Machine for Farine Manufacture.
D2717(21)	384·00	Purchase of Projector.
D2739	119,520·00	Public Health Engineering.
D2751	38,400·00	Public Health Nursing Service.
D2752	189,408·00	Equipment and Staff for Feeder Road Programme.
D2763	278,870·40	Construction of G.P.O. and Municipal Buildings.
D2764	52,992·00	Construction and Staffing of T.B. Ward.
D2800	100,320·00	Geological Survey, Windward Islands.
D2826	9,120·00	Scholarship for Diploma Course at Imperial College of Tropical Agriculture.
D2845 & A	13,080·00	Recurrent Administrative Cost of Eastern Caribbean Farm Institute.
D2885	8,448·00	Contribution to Police Training School, Barbados.
D2890(3)	530·40	Vocational Training School, Puerto Rico.
D2892	60,000·00	Forestry Development.
D2901	38,400·00	Construction and equipment of Health Centres.
D2966	345,400·00	Dredging of Castries Harbour.
D2979	240,000·00	Soufrière Reconstruction.
D3058	96,000·00	Nurses Quarters at Victoria Hospital.

APPENDIX II

Cases Reported to and Dealt With by the Police, 1955

Offences	Pending investigation at 31/12/54	Total reported during Year 1955	Pending investigation at 31/12/55	Referred to Native or Local Courts	Not Taken to Court				Taken to Court				
					Total	Civil: no case in law: or found false	Evidence insufficient, trivial or undetected, etc.	Accused, dead or insane	Total	Convicted	Dismissed	Nolle Prosequi	Awaiting trial at 31/12/55
<i>Against Lawful Authority</i>													
Against public order	23	877	5	—	39	9	29	1	856	617	22	22	193
Perjury	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Escape and rescue	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	2	—	—	—
<i>Against Public Morality</i>													
Rape and indecent assault	—	8	—	—	3	1	2	—	5	2	1	1	1
Unnatural offences	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
<i>Against the Person</i>													
Murder and manslaughter	—	2	—	—	1	—	1	—	1	—	1	—	—
Attempted murder and suicide	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Grievous harm, wounding, etc.	24	231	—	—	53	16	37	—	202	149	6	11	36
Assaults	—	194	—	—	17	8	9	—	177	137	4	10	26
Other	—	34	1	—	2	1	1	—	31	23	3	2	3
<i>Against the Property</i>													
Thefts and other stealings	248	1,493	301	—	809	175	633	1	631	364	58	27	182
Robbery and extortion	3	4	—	—	7	2	5	—	—	—	—	—	—
Burglary	14	59	17	—	49	4	45	—	7	5	1	—	1

APPENDIX II—continued

Offences	Pending investigation at 31/12/54	Total reported during Year 1955	Pending investigation at 31/12/55	Referred to Native or Local Courts	Not Taken to Court				Taken to Court				
					Total	Civil: no case in law; or found false	Evidence insufficient, trivial or undetected, etc.	Accused, dead or insane	Total	Convicted	Dismissed	Nolle Prosequi	Awaiting trial at 31/12/55
House and store breaking, etc.	29	201	70	—	127	13	114	—	33	22	—	1	10
False pretences	5	31	1	—	10	2	8	—	25	16	—	2	7
Fraud, etc.	—	4	1	—	1	—	1	—	2	—	—	1	—
Receiving stolen property	—	14	1	—	—	—	—	—	13	6	—	1	4
Arson	3	26	10	—	16	3	13	—	3	1	2	1	1
Prædial larceny	72	354	41	—	124	26	98	—	261	193	23	9	36
Other	2	51	3	—	15	4	11	—	35	18	6	1	10
<i>Against the Penal Code</i>													
Forgery and coinage	—	7	4	—	—	—	—	—	3	1	1	—	1
Other	—	1	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
<i>Against Local Laws</i>													
Against Traffic Ordinance	—	378	—	—	29	3	26	—	349	162	10	31	146
Against Township Ordinance	1	18	—	—	1	—	1	—	18	14	—	—	4
Against Liquor Ordinance	—	17	—	—	—	—	—	—	17	9	1	1	6
Gambling	—	21	1	—	—	—	—	—	20	11	1	—	8
Other	—	45	1	—	4	—	4	—	40	21	9	3	7
Total	425	4,073	457	—	1,309	267	1,040	2	2,732	1,773	151	123	685

APPENDIX III

Persons Dealt With by the Courts, 1955

Offences	Total arrested or summoned to Court	Acquitted	Nolle Prosequi	Awaiting trial at 31/12/55	Convicted								Warning or First Offenders Act		
					Total	Death		Imprisonment		Whipping		Fine			
						M	F	M	F	M	J	M		J	M
<i>Against Lawful Authority</i>															
Against public order	1,161	38	40	231	852	—	—	7	—	—	7	—	—	—	244
Perjury	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Escape and rescue	2	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
<i>Against Public Morality</i>															
Rape and indecent assault	5	1	1	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Unnatural offences	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
<i>Against the Person</i>															
Murder and manslaughter	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Attempted murder and suicide	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Grievous harm, wounding, etc.	191	12	16	41	122	—	—	5	—	—	3	—	—	22	13
Assaults	208	9	13	36	150	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	81	40
Other	41	5	2	4	30	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	26	1
<i>Against the Property</i>															
Thefts and other stealings	572	84	44	120	324	—	—	50	8	—	—	—	—	30	47
Robbery and extortion	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Burglary	10	1	—	1	8	—	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
House and store breaking, etc.	35	4	1	11	19	—	—	12	—	—	—	—	—	—	2

APPENDIX III—continued

Offences	Total arrested or summoned to Court	Acquitted	Nolle Prosequi	Awaiting trial at 31/12/55	Convicted								Warning or First Offenders Act	
					Total	Death		Imprisonment		Whipping	Fine			
						M	F	M	F		J	M		F
False pretences	29	—	2	5	22	—	—	5	1	—	8	1	—	7
Fraud, etc.	2	1	1	—	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Receiving stolen property	14	2	1	5	1	—	—	—	—	—	4	2	—	—
Anson	3	—	1	38	170	—	—	—	—	—	81	11	—	28
Prædial larceny	252	26	18	16	33	—	—	32	—	—	14	—	—	16
Other	60	7	4	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—
Against the Penal Code														
Forgery and coinage	4	1	—	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Other	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Against Local Laws														
Against Traffic Ordinance	360	10	33	149	168	—	—	—	—	—	101	—	—	67
Against Township Ordinance	18	—	—	4	14	—	—	—	—	—	11	—	—	3
Against Liquor Ordinance	23	1	—	6	16	—	—	—	—	—	3	1	—	12
Gambling	72	4	—	28	40	—	—	—	—	—	33	—	—	7
Other	70	12	2	6	50	—	—	—	—	—	24	5	—	21
Total	3,133	219	179	706	2,029	—	—	122	9	—	1,051	288	—	508

COLONIAL OFFICE

A SELECTION OF PUBLICATIONS

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Committee for Colonial Agricultural, Animal Health, and Forestry Research.

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PART I

Review of 1957 and 1958

THE affairs of St. Lucia were largely conditioned during the period under review by the constitutional changes in 1956 when for the first time the elected members of the Executive Council could outvote the official members and decide policies. This was especially important since the territory was at the peak of its second five-year development plan. The new constitution had by this time settled into a definite pattern and the first team of ministers were trying to find the economic means of translating their new powers and responsibilities into deeds with the view of proving to the public that the territory was ready to make a further constitutional advance. By and large this exercise was performed without undue disruption of the development programme and the new system was reasonably well backed by public opinion.

During this period an appreciation of the concept of party politics began to be displayed both in central and local government activities and there were indications that in time there will be a steady development of effective party government in the island. At the general elections held on 18th September 1957 the St. Lucia Labour Party won seven of the eight seats on the Legislative Council.

On 21st October 1957 Mr. J. K. R. Thorp, C.M.G., left the territory to take up an appointment as Governor of the Seychelles, and on 21st January 1958 St. Lucia welcomed the new Administrator, the Earl of Oxford and Asquith.

The first Governor-General of the West Indies, His Excellency Lord Hailes, K.B.E., arrived in the West Indies in January 1958, and visited the territory for the first time in February 1958.

The federal elections were held on 25th March 1958 and resulted in two members of the Federal Labour Party being elected to the Federal Parliament.

Economic progress continued at a slow rate owing to a serious strike of sugar-cane cutters in 1957 and to the prolonged drought in the early months of 1958 which caused heavy damage to banana cultivations. However, with a view to increasing agricultural production and consequently the general standard of living, good use was made of Colonial Development and Welfare funds and loan funds available for the period 1955-60, 40 per cent. of such funds being applied to roads and 25 per cent. to agricultural projects.

A Government Housing Loans Board was established during the period. Regulations provide that no loan shall exceed a sum equal to 80 per cent. of the Board's estimate of the value of the house and land concerned and every loan is repayable within a period of not more than 20 years.

The following is a list of some of the more important public works which were either completed or were in the course of being completed during 1957-58:

A slipway in Castries Harbour for very small craft and launches only.

Reconstruction of the Public Library.

Extension of the Vigie Airport.

Extension of the electricity supply to Laborie Village.

New Nurses Quarters at Victoria Hospital.

New Police Station at Soufrière.

New Sub-Collector's Office and Court House in Soufrière.

Low Cost Housing Scheme, Soufrière.

New Tuberculosis Ward, Victoria Hospital.

Dredging of the Castries Harbour.

In May 1957 the new diocese of Castries was established in the Roman Catholic Church and on 5th May in the same year, in the Cathedral Church in Castries, the Right Reverend Charles Gachet was consecrated the first bishop of the new diocese.

PART II

Chapter 1: Population

ACCORDING to the West Indian census returns of 1946, the population of St. Lucia was 71,813. The estimated population at the end of the years 1956, 1957 and 1958 was:

1956	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	89,862
1957	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	91,102
1958	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	92,089

Other vital statistics for these three years are as follows:

	1956	1957	1958
Male births registered	1,374	2,046	2,007
Female births registered	2,197	1,878	1,945
TOTAL BIRTHS REGISTERED	3,571	3,924	3,952
Birth rates per 1,000	40.1	43.4	43.1
Stillbirths	140	125	103
Deaths	1,127	1,270	1,269
Death rates per 1,000	12.7	14.0	13.9
Infant mortality rates per 1,000 births	101.9	95.6	115.4
Marriages	493	488	401

Chapter 2: Occupations, Wages and Labour Organisation

EMPLOYMENT

THE estimated numbers of persons employed in the principal industries and services were as follows:

Agricultural Wage Earners	20,000
Fishing	1,500
Manufacturing Industries	3,920
Other skilled employment (including printers, electricians, potters, etc.)	300
Transportation and Communications	1,100
Commerce and Retail Trade (including Banking, Insurance, etc.)	1,700
Public Service	1,200
Domestic Service	3,000
TOTAL	32,720

The extent of unemployment or under-employment is not known as no relevant statistics are available.

Seasonal employment was available for approximately 4,000 workers in the sugar industry during the years under review. The Public Works Department employed, on all projects undertaken by Government, an average of about 2,000 persons a fortnight.

During 1957 and 1958, 1,552 workers left the colony for the United Kingdom in search of employment; 68 workers were recruited for work on Ascension Island; and 241 for farm work in the United States of America.

The Labour Department conducted all recruitment formalities.

WAGES AND CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT

The normal working day for work performed on a time basis is eight hours; work in excess of this is paid at time and a half. Night work is performed in the sugar and baking industries, but in the former only during harvesting operations.

Free housing is provided for a number of workers on sugar plantations and on a number of the other estates where mixed farming is carried on.

All employees are entitled, after 200 days of employment in any one year, to receive 14 days holiday with pay.

Daily paid workers employed in construction by Government departments are granted pay on four public holidays: Good Friday, Christmas Day, May Day and Federation Day, as though they had worked.

Waterfront Workers

As a result of negotiations between the shipping agents and the Seamen and Waterfront Workers' Union, the following increased wage rates became effective on 11th February 1957:

	<i>For an 8-hour day (per hour)</i>
Dockmen	61 cents
Gangwaymen and Watchmen	66 "
Winchmen, Guymen, Holdmen and Gangwaymen	82 "
Tally Clerks	\$1.05

Overtime rates are paid at the rate of time and one-half from 4.00 p.m. to 7.00 a.m. and at double time for work done on Good Friday, Easter Monday and Christmas Day.

Sugar Industry

The statutory minimum remuneration payable to workers in the sugar industry in 1957 was as follows:

Agricultural Workers

	<i>Rates for 8-hour day (per hour)</i>
	\$
Men	1.56
Women	1.00
Boys 16-18 years	.84
" 14-16 "	.63
Girls 16-18 years	.69
" 14-16 "	.55
	<i>(Rate per week)</i>
Drivers and Headmen	10.00

Rates for Task Work:

Cutting canes. 74 cents per ton plus a production bonus of 60 cents per 13½ tons.

Heading canes. Same as above for first waggon; second waggon at 78 cents per ton, plus 60 cents for 13½ tons; third waggon at 82.8 cents per ton, plus 60 cents for 13½ tons.

Loading canes. 31.8 cents per ton plus 60 cents for 36 tons.

Factory Workers

A. Apprentices. Apprentices, i.e., workers who have not yet worked in the trade for five years:

Welders	}	8 cents per hour
Motor and Steam Mechanics		
Lathemen		
Locomotive Drivers		
Carpenters		
Masons		
Blacksmiths		

B. Semi-skilled. Semi-skilled workmen, i.e., workers who have worked in the trade for over five years but do not fall within Class C below:

Mechanics' Assistants	}	22 cents per hour
Carpenters' Assistants		
Masons' Assistants		
Blacksmiths' Assistants		
Boiler Tenders' Assistants		
Electricians (Wiremen)		
Distillers		
Firemen		
Sugar Curers		
Bench Chemists		
Quad Boilers		
Winch Drivers		

C. *Skilled*. Skilled workers as determined by the Factory Engineer:

Welders	}	32½ cents per hour
Motor and Steam Mechanics		
Lathemen		
Locomotive Drivers		
Carpenters		
Masons		
Blacksmiths		
Bench Chemists		
Quad Boilers		

In 1958 workers in the sugar industry received a weekly bonus of 8½ per cent. on the above rates.

Shop Assistants, Clerks and others

The statutory minimum wages were as follows:

A. Persons serving customers, receiving orders or dispatching goods, canvassing business of any kind, or doing other clerical or commercial work (other than persons employed as office clerks and cash boys):

(i) Within the limits of the town of Castries and one mile of the said limits:

(a) \$25 per month in respect of business places open for any time between 7 a.m. and 5 p.m.

(b) \$28 per month in respect of business places open for any time between 7 a.m. and 9 p.m.

(ii) Outside the limits of the town of Castries and one mile of the said limits:

(a) \$21.25 per month in respect of business places open for any time between 7 a.m. and 5 p.m.

(b) \$23.80 per month in respect of business places open for any time between 7 a.m. and 9 p.m.

B. Office clerks, including all persons employed in keeping books and accounts, typists, shipping and customs clerks, cashiers, other than persons employed in retail and wholesale departments, and other clerks similarly employed:

\$35 per month in respect of business places for any time between 7 a.m. and 5 p.m.

C. Cash boys.

\$15 per month in respect of business places open for any time between 7 a.m. and 5 p.m.

For work done during periods or intervals when the employee by the terms of his contract or under any law of the colony is not required to work, he must be paid overtime at the rate of time and one-half for ordinary working days, and double time for public holidays and Sundays.

COST OF LIVING

The following figures show the monthly changes in the cost-of-living index for 1957 and 1958, as compared with the base year 1939:

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
1939	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	100	102	104	105
1957	288	290	289	289	290	293	293	293	295	293	296	296
1958	296	296	296	296	298	299	299	300	300	300	302	303

Prices of principal foodstuffs in the years 1957–58 were as follows:

	cents.
Beef	48 per lb.
Sugar (dark)	10 "
Sugar (clear)	12 "
Fish (fresh)	20 "
Fish (salt)	37–40 "
Vegetables	16 "
Rice	16 "
Flour	12 "
Fresh Milk	14 per pint
Margarine	52 per lb.
Eggs	12 each

LABOUR DEPARTMENT

The Labour Ordinance enacted in 1938 established the post of Secretary of Labour (now Labour Commissioner) and outlined the principal duties of this officer as follows:

- to regulate, supervise and review the various forms of employment of labour which exist in the territory;
- to ensure the due enforcement of labour legislation;
- to bring to the notice of the Governor every matter or thing which is likely to be prejudicial to the welfare of any class of labour, or cause of disagreement between labourers and their employers;
- to make recommendations to the Governor from time to time for promoting the general welfare of labourers.

The Labour Ordinance provides that the Labour Commissioner shall be *ex officio* a Labour Inspector and confers on him powers of entering all places where work is proceeding. In addition, he is the Chief Factory Inspector and exercises all the powers which the Factory Ordinance confers.

The Assistant Labour Commissioner assists the Labour Commissioner generally, compiles the cost-of-living index figures, helps in disposing of grievances between employers and employees and, in his capacity as a Minimum Wages Inspector and Enforcement Officer under the Wages Council Ordinance, he inspects places of employment.

The department keeps the accounts of compulsory savings of workers in the United States, and pays allotments to dependants and balances to workers on their return.

The Labour Department was represented on the following boards and committees:

The Price Control Board
The Rent Restriction Board
The Agricultural Workers' Wages Council.

The department continued to function as a labour exchange. Few employers, however, availed themselves of this service as they selected workers from among the many who presented themselves on the spot whenever a vacancy occurred.

INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS

There were six registered unions operating in the colony; their membership was as follows:

The St. Lucia Workers' Co-operative Union	500
The St. Lucia Seamen and Waterfront Workers' Union	350
The St. Lucia Civil Service Association	92
The St. Lucia Teachers' Union	120
The United Workers' Union	200
The Vieux-Fort and Dockers' Union	169

During 1957, as a result of an independent survey carried out by the Labour Commissioner, the St. Lucia Agriculturists' Association Ltd., acting on behalf of four of the largest estates in the eastern district, agreed to recognise the St. Lucia Workers' Co-operative Union as representatives of the workers on these estates.

There were two strikes. The first, involving workers on four of the largest estates in the eastern district, was the outcome of a deadlock reached in negotiations for increased wages and improved working conditions between the St. Lucia Agriculturists' Association Ltd. representing the owners of the four estates and the St. Lucia Workers' Co-operative Union. In an endeavour to resolve the issue, a commission of inquiry was appointed, with Mr. J. Wright, C.B.E., as chairman, to make inquiries into and report on the yields from the value of coconut and banana plantations in St. Lucia and the cost of producing copra and bananas for export.

The second strike occurred in the Roseau Valley where a small number of cane cutters stopped work in a field where the variety 37172 was being reaped. By noon all field operations ceased and the following day the strike spread to the Cul-de-Sac and Dennery Sugar Estates. The reasons which emerged after questioning some of the workers were:

- (i) the low earnings derived from the reaping of the 37172 variety which, it was reported, was a very light cane and required excessive work to fill a wagon;
- (ii) the difficulty of cutting the 37172 variety on account of its sharp blades and prickles;
- (iii) the loss in weight due to delays of three to four days in transporting canes already cut to the scales; and
- (iv) the belief that the scales were being manipulated in favour of the Company.

After unsuccessful attempts to settle the dispute, the Governor appointed a commission of inquiry comprising Sir Donald Jackson, Chief Justice of the Windward and Leeward Islands, Mr. Martin Pounder of the British T.U.C. and Mr. D. G. Leacock to investigate the cause of the stoppage, the wage structure, terms and conditions of employment and other matters relating to the foregoing in the sugar industries in St. Lucia and to make recommendations.

By an Agreement signed on 25th January 1958, by the St. Lucia Workers' Co-operative Union and the St. Lucia Sugar Association Ltd., the association recognised the union as the sole bargaining agent for the workers employed in the sugar industry and, during the life of the agreement, undertook to deal with no other organisation in respect of wages and other conditions of work affecting the employees. In an effort to assist in maintaining proper trade union development, the association agreed to adopt and put into effect the "check-off" system of dues-deduction.

The agreement also provided for the appointment of delegates by the union whose duty it would be to discuss, with a view to settlement, any disputes or misunderstandings which might arise from time to time over wages, hours of work or dismissals.

Agreement was reached between the union and the association for the fixing of wages prior to the commencement of the 1958 sugar crop. The agreement, which applied to 1958 only, provided for the payment, out of accumulated reserves in the Sugar Price Stabilisation Fund, of a weekly bonus to sugar workers at the rate of 8½ per cent. of the 1957 wage rates.

In October 1957 the St. Lucia Workers' Co-operative Union signed an agreement with the Seamen and Waterfront Workers' Union undertaking to supply the women carriers who would be required for the loading of bananas.

By letter of 25th February 1958 the General Manager of Geest Industries Ltd. informed the St. Lucia Workers' Co-operative Union that the company had decided to reduce the number of women carriers employed on each shipment of bananas to, initially, four gangs of 30 women each. Rosters would be prepared and all women engaged on this work would continue as far as possible to be employed in rotation. It was further proposed to introduce new sets of badges which in future would be issued by the head women instead of, as formerly, by the union.

The Seamen's Union, who by the terms of a contract with the Shipping Agents are required to provide workers for the loading of bananas, agreed to the proposed changes without consulting the Workers' Union with whom they had sub-contracted to provide women carriers. The Workers' Union, however, refused to accept the proposed changes as it was felt that many of their members would be victimised as a result of the sudden change in policy.

In an effort to preserve cordial relations between the unions and to avert a stoppage of work which was then contemplated, a meeting was held under the chairmanship of the Labour Commissioner. As a result of the meeting the contemplated stoppage was abandoned and a decision reached that a representative of the Caribbean Area Division of the Organisation Regional Interamericana de Trabajadores (O.R.I.T.) should be invited to investigate the points at issue as both unions were members of that body.

Owing to adverse weather conditions which affected the agricultural industry, the St. Lucia Workers' Co-operation Union, which had been negotiating with the Agriculturists' Association for increased wages and improved working conditions for workers in the industry, agreed to postpone negotiations on the wage claim which had been previously presented to the association. The union, however, invited the association to pay to all categories of workers a bonus of not less than 15 per cent. of their earnings up to November 1958.

LABOUR LEGISLATION

During the years under review, the following Ordinances were enacted:

Wages Regulation (Sugar Industry) (Workers)

Ordinance No. 5 of 1957

Holidays with Pay Ordinance No. 15 of 1957.

*Occupations, Wages and Labour Organisation***SAFETY, HEALTH AND WELFARE**

Improvement continued in matters pertaining to the health and welfare of the sugar workers. A Sugar Labour Welfare Fund Committee finances housing schemes in three sugar areas.

INDUSTRIAL TRAINING

Youths from primary schools were accepted as apprentices in the Public Works Department on the recommendation of the Education Officer. Senior girls from primary schools received a three-months' practical course in infant care at a day nursery. Many young men continued to secure apprenticeship in the sugar factories, printing works, garages, and with skilled workmen in the building and clothing trades.

The Agricultural Department provided training in agriculture.

During 1957 Government selected a number of boys for apprenticeship in carpentry, joinery, mechanics, electricity, tailoring, masonry and agriculture. These apprentices receive a maintenance allowance from Government and are required to work under the following conditions:

- (a) they should not work for more than eight hours per day;
- (b) they should not be required to work on Sundays;
- (c) they must be allowed a half-holiday on one day in each week;
- (d) they should be allowed two weeks' holiday per annum.

The master is required to have his workshop open to inspection by the Colonial Engineer, the Education Officer and the Labour Commissioner, and is also required to send in regular reports on the work and conduct of the apprentices under his care.

No vocational training is as yet undertaken in the territory. During 1958 Government ran a training course in handicrafts for 12 persons under the supervision of an experienced handicraft instructor from Jamaica. This course was the first step in the establishment of a Handicraft Manufacturing Centre.

Chapter 3: Public Finance and Taxation

THE main heads of revenue and expenditure in 1956, 1957 and 1958 were as follows:

	<i>Revenue</i>		
	1956	1957	1958
	\$	\$	\$
Import Duties	1,161,274	1,410,030	1,507,836
Export Duties	230,979	206,108	211,776
Excise Duties	305,684	283,496	300,097
Other Duties	18,277	25,363	27,893
Licences	42,611	46,803	49,809
Taxes	476,668	575,482	680,487
Harbour Dues	61,114	66,098	68,648
Other Fees of Administration .	424,428	600,446	448,309
Post Office	87,102	96,474	124,813
Electricity and Telephone . .	21,213	25,304	28,777
Rents and Interest	30,422	36,427	36,517
Repayment of Loans and Advances	10,054	95	24
Sale of Crown Lands	19,455	11,278	16,589
TOTAL LOCAL REVENUE	2,889,281	3,383,404	3,501,575
Colonial Development and Welfare Schemes	1,589,268	1,981,002	1,027,443
Deferred Maintenance	35,326	—	—
Grant-in-Aid of Administration	42,144	112,776	791,501
20 per cent. Civil Service Salary Revision (1956)	73,718	—	—
TOTAL REVENUE	\$4,559,085	\$5,477,182	\$5,320,519

	Expenditure		
	1956 \$	1957 \$	1958 \$
Governor	15,911	15,758	15,659
Legislature	32,658	55,443	48,059
Administration	119,003	143,253	152,773
Accountant General	40,738	50,096	58,882
Agriculture	84,879	112,522	117,111
Audit	22,566	29,092	30,131
Central Housing Authority	7,614	25,700	12,372
Education	348,093	568,507	635,455
Judicial	29,045	37,877	31,795
Labour	17,689	19,851	19,389
Lands and Survey	38,006	42,775	43,208
Customs and Excise	50,609	61,477	70,393
Inland Revenue	35,197	39,509	44,813
Legal	31,662	38,193	37,765
Medical	329,245	406,698	455,768
Miscellaneous	500,736	410,787	254,942
Police	287,146	403,138	378,137
Pensions	140,108	122,385	178,149
Port and Marine	29,427	49,173	33,581
Post Office	57,078	74,031	76,720
Prisons	52,463	54,680	59,532
Public Debt	287,757	300,025	285,532
Public Library	—	7,756	—
Public Works	70,848	82,058	86,679
Public Works Recurrent	361,873	358,285	418,919
Beane Field	9,868	17,568	39,313
Social Welfare and Public Relations	30,689	33,495	39,902
Subventions	154,549	160,403	242,560
Telephones	46,964	51,073	85,901
Public Works Extra	211,724	195,372	191,883
Deferred Maintenance	29,758	94,115	97,969
TOTAL LOCAL EXPENDITURE	3,473,903	4,061,095	4,243,292
Colonial Development and Welfare Schemes	1,176,312	1,752,864	1,027,442
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	\$4,650,215	\$5,813,959	\$5,270,734

Statement of Assets
as at

LIABILITIES			
Special Funds:	\$	c	\$ c
Baron Trust Fund	12,146	65	
Castries Fire Relief Fund (1948)	17	02	
Castries Fire Relief Fund (1951)	166	57	
Castries Reconstruction Loan for Private Rebuilding Fund	135,064	77	
Castries Reconstruction Loan Private Rebuilding Fund A/c.			
No. 2A	60,086	64	
Castries Sewerage Relending Loan Fund	22,694	43	
Castries Town Council Building Fund	16,126	42	
Castries Town Council Electric Lights Reserve Fund	2,057	97	
Castries Water Works Reserve Fund	2,856	89	
Cess on Sugar Industry	2,499	45	
Coconut Industry Fund—Head "A"	5,470	87	
Coconut Industry Fund—Head "B"	1,353	71	
Colonial Development and Welfare Schemes (Grant)	108,826	95	
Custodian of Enemy Property	1,767	38	
Dennerly Water Works Reserve Fund	853	34	
Expansion of Sugar Industry Revolving Fund	13,342	81	
Hurricane Damage Relief Fund	1,282	43	
Interest Baron Trust Fund	30	40	
Landslide Relief (1938) Fund	13,546	12	
Loan Fund for Credit Facilities to St. Lucia B.G.A.	11	30	
Savings Bank Deposits Account	404,468	70	
Savings Certificates	10,399	26	
Sinking Fund, Castries Water Works, 4% Debentures	16,908	41	
Soufriere Fire Relief Fund	972	35	
Soufriere Hydro-Electric Scheme (Loan) Fund	8,909	50	
Soufriere Water Works Reserve Fund	702	97	
Sugar Labour Welfare Fund for Ambulance	57	01	
Windward Island Banana Price Assistance Scheme (St. Lucia)	132,721	80	
Working Capital for Development of Timber Industry	50,542	69	
Sugar Funds:			
Labour Welfare	55,580	78	
Manufacturers Ltd. Loan Interest Adjustment	17,878	74	
Price Stabilisation	467,886	74	
Rehabilitation	44,449	04	
			1,611,680 11
Joint Consolidated Fund			1,881,600 00
Sundry Deposits Account			294,798 15
Castries Town Council:			
Castries Town Fund	57,337	47	
Model Cottages Housing Scheme	1,159	34	
			58,496 81
Towns and Villages:			
Anse-la-Ray	3,936	51	
Canaries	2,607	54	
Choiseul	995	49	
Dennerly	3,469	93	
Gros Islet	3,244	46	
Micoud	1,789	91	
Vieux-Fort	271	51	
			16,315 35
Colony's Reserve Fund			349,779 82
Barclay's Bank Current A/c.			
(New Alternator)	86,365	66	
Cash: Barclay's Bank (D.C.O.)			
(Overdraft)	606,953	90	
Crown Agents	3,836	06	
			697,155 62
Less Sub-Accountants	29,740	82	
Accountant General	41,556	61	
			71,297 43
			625,858 19
			\$4,838,528 43

NOTE: 1. The public debt of the colony at 31st December 1958 stood at \$3,535,664.95 which includes \$2,782,280.60 loaned for Castries Reconstruction. The accumulated sinking fund towards its redemption stood at \$622,062.74.

2. At 31st December 1958 an amount of \$488,607.16 not included in the above assets, was due by Her Majesty's Government to the colony in respect of unreimbursed expenditure on Colonial Development and Welfare schemes.

31st December 1958

3. At 31st December 1958 unrepaid loans from revenue not shown in the above assets amounted to \$1,552,099.98.
4. At 31st December 1958 the Savings Bank had a contingent liability of \$44,227.82.

Statement of Public Debt showing Loans issued and their respective Sinking Funds at 31st December 1957

Description of Debt or Loan	Amount of Original Loan	When incurred and purpose	Amount outstanding	Rate of Interest	Provision for repayment and legal authority	Date payable	AMOUNT OF SINKING FUND		Remarks
							Amount of Stock	Value of Stock	
Loan Conversion Loan 1959	₤ 79,903.76	1939. For payment of 5% Local Loan Ordinance No. 62 of 1916 Revision. 5% loan for construction of Baron Wing Ordinance No. 3 of 1917. 5% Local Loan Ordinance No. 10 of 1918. Purchase of Baron Asylum, Ordinance No. 73 of 1916 Revision.	₤ 79,903.76	31%	Ordinance No. 24 of 1938	1959	₤ 73,738.32	₤ 66,989.69	
Land Settlement Loan from Colonial Development and Welfare Scheme D497	115,200.00	1945. For the purchase of Barbados Settlement Co. Land in the Vieux-Fort Area.	61,982.40	—	—	—	—	—	Loan free of interest in the first instance. Terms of repayment to be considered later. Original loan reduced by \$53,217.60 being cost of area "C," originally regarded as loan now converted to free grant Vide S. of S. Telegram No. 14 of 5/2/53.
Black Bay Estate Acquisition. Loan from Colonial Development and Welfare Scheme D376	47,136.00	1945. For the purchase of certain lands belonging to the Barbados Settlement Co.	28,132.28	31%	—	1965	—	—	Loan free of interest for the first 5 years, then repayment by 15 equated annuities. No statutory authority.
Carried fwd.	₤ 242,239.76		₤ 170,018.44				₤ 73,738.32	₤ 66,989.69	

Description of Debt or Loan	Amount of Original Loan	When Incurred and purpose	Amount Outstanding	Rate of Interest	Provision for repayment and legal authority	Date payable	AMOUNT OF SINKING FUND		Remarks
							Amount of Stock	Value of Stock	
Brought fwd. Castries Reconstruction Loan	\$ 242,239.76 1,938,400.00	1949. For relending to persons for private rebuilding whose houses were destroyed by fire on 19-20 June 1948. For sewerage and housing scheme for the town of Castries.	\$ 170,018.44 1,938,400.00	3½%	Ordinance No. 9 of 1949	1965/70	\$ 73,738.32 581,145.32	\$ 66,989.69 459,715.38	
Castries Reconstruction Loan	823,880.60	1953. For relending to persons for private rebuilding whose houses were destroyed by fire March 1951	823,880.60	3½%	Ordinances Nos. 9 of 1953 and No. 37 of 1954	1965/70	—	—	
Vide Bouteille Scheme. Loan from Colonial Development and Welfare D1212	21,600.00	1949. For housing Vide Bouteille area	17,332.20	3%	—	—	—	—	Interest at 3% payable after 3 years.
Soufriere Hydro-Electric Scheme	280,119.40	1953. For the installation of the Soufriere Hydro-Electric Plant	280,119.40	3½%	Ordinances Nos. 9 & 26 of 1953	1965/70	—	—	
Castries Town Council. Loan for Sewerage Relending	67,605.64	1955. For relending to Castries Town Council.	47,256.08	—	Ordinance No. 19 of 1955	1961/62	—	—	Second instalment of \$67,200 to be raised in 1956.
	\$3,393,845.40		\$3,297,006.72				\$654,903.64	\$526,705.07	

MAIN HEADS OF TAXATION

Import Duties

Ad valorem and specific rates of duty are paid on imports of food, drink and tobacco, raw materials and unmanufactured articles, and articles wholly or mainly manufactured. Specific rates are paid on animals not for food.

The principal imports of food, drink and tobacco are beer, grain (rice, flour, cornmeal and other cereals), preserves, milk, pickled meat, hams and bacon, tea, coffee, tobacco, cigarettes, edible fats, butter and lard. The main imports of raw materials and unmanufactured articles are leather and lumber; those of articles wholly or mainly manufactured are wearing apparel, cotton piece-goods, hardware, machinery, medicines, metals, paints and colours, and manufactures of wood and timber.

The cost of goods for the purpose of ascertaining the amount of *ad valorem* duty payable is calculated on the price charged for the goods by the vendor and verified by the genuine invoice for such goods. The calculation is based upon all charges on such goods up to the time the goods are removed from bond.

Articles imported by or for the use of Her Majesty's Naval or Military Forces, the Police Force, the Girl Guide and Boy Scout Associations, the Government, the Governor, and municipal authorities, and several other articles listed under Ordinance No. 8 of 1940 for the purpose of encouraging trade and commerce, local agriculture and scientific investigation, are exempted from payment of import duty. A preference of approximately one-third is in many cases allowed on goods of Commonwealth origin. The margin of preference is fixed by agreement.

The Governor in Council may remit or authorise the exemption of import duty or refund in whole or in part of any customs duty payable or paid by any person or on any goods not specified in the table of exemption in the 1940 Ordinance.

Export Duties

Export duties are collected on certain exports from the colony, of which the main are bananas, charcoal, cocoa, coconuts and copra, firewood, fruit, honey, lime products and sugar.

In order to collect the duties, export prices are fixed by an Export Price Committee under the chairmanship of the Collector of Customs. The duty on all items except firewood and charcoal is on a sliding scale.

Excise Duty

Excise duty on spirits made in the territory, i.e., rum, was charged at \$2.84 per proof gallon.

In 1957 and 1958 excise duty on sugar was levied at the rate of \$32.69 and \$32.95 respectively per ton on clear sugar manufactured and consumed in the colony.

Income Tax

This tax is imposed on the income of any person which accrues in, or is derived from the territory or elsewhere, whether received in the territory or not, provided that in the case of income arising out of the territory which is earned income or which arises to a person who is not ordinarily resident in the territory or not domiciled in the territory, the tax is payable on the amount received in St. Lucia. The tax is charged at a sliding scale of rates on the balance of the income remaining after deducting a personal allowance of \$480 and other allowances for wife, children and life insurance premiums. The income of companies is charged at the rate of \$1.60 on every \$4.80 of the chargeable income thereof.

INCIDENCE OF TAX

Income Group		1957		1958			
		Number of Assessments	Tax payable	Number of Assessments	Tax payable		
\$	c	\$	c	\$	c		
480	00 —	960	00	622	3,959 00	863	2,685 00
964	80 —	1,440	00	368	5,273 00	464	4,084 00
1,444	80 —	1,920	00	217	6,296 00	270	6,741 00
1,924	80 —	2,400	00	142	8,078 00	178	7,960 00
2,404	80 —	2,880	00	98	7,877 00	141	11,519 00
2,884	80 —	3,360	00	68	8,011 00	83	10,149 00
3,364	80 —	3,840	00	35	5,249 00	40	5,691 00
3,844	80 —	4,320	00	36	8,362 00	26	4,562 00
4,324	80 —	4,800	00	20	9,078 00	39	10,801 00
4,804	80 —	5,280	00	24	10,026 00	30	9,879 00
5,284	80 —	6,720	00	43	23,582 00	45	22,279 00
6,724	80 —	9,600	00	24	34,550 00	39	32,394 00
9,604	80 —	12,000	00	17	24,450 00	12	18,054 00
12,004	80 —	14,400	00	6	14,362 00	11	21,563 00
Over		14,400	00	15	76,775 00	14	84,764 00
Companies				55	275,914 00	57	353,123 00
Supplementary Assessments Additional Assessments		1,790	521,842 00	2,312	606,250 00		
		79	13,513 00	183	26,900 00		
		43	7,490 00	47	2,779 00		
		1,912	542,845 00	2,542	635,929 00		

The net tax collected in 1957 inclusive of arrears was \$524,303 compared with \$630,271 inclusive of arrears in 1958.

Succession Duty

This duty is levied under the provisions of the Succession Duty Ordinance.

Where death occurs in St. Lucia the person accountable for succession duty is required within three months after the death to deliver to the Accountant General a declaration of the value of the estate of the deceased; where death occurs outside St. Lucia the period is six months. The Accountant General may under certain circumstances extend the period for a further three or six months in the respective cases referred to and further delays may be granted on application to the Judge.

Succession duty is collected on all estates in excess of \$480; but only half-rate is payable in respect of succession passing to the wife, the mother or the lawful son or daughter of the deceased or to the illegitimate son or daughter of a deceased mother.

The duties collected in 1957 amounted to \$6,411 compared with \$7,016 in 1958.

Land and House Tax

The following taxes are levied annually under the provisions of the Land and House Tax Ordinance No. 29 of 1949 on all lands and houses situated outside of the limits of any town or village.

(a) Upon land, 24 cents per acre or fraction of an acre.

(b) Upon houses of which the assessed annual rental is:

Over \$25.00 and not over \$35.00	.	.	\$1.80
" \$35.00 " " " \$50.00	.	.	\$2.40
" \$50.00 " " " \$60.00	.	.	\$3.60
" \$60.00 " " " \$80.00	.	.	\$4.80
" \$80.00 " " " \$100.00	.	.	\$6.72
,, \$100.00 (7 per cent of the assessed annual rental).			

The assessment is made by the Tax Officer and payment can be enforced in a summary manner before the inferior courts.

The tax collected during 1957 amounted to \$37,882 compared with \$37,136 in 1958.

Chapter 4: Currency and Banking**CURRENCY**

THE currency of the colony is the West Indian dollar, which is linked to sterling at the rate of \$4.80 to the £ sterling. Notes and coins are issued by the Eastern Caribbean Currency Board.

BANKING

There are three banks operating in the colony:

Barclays Bank (D.C.O.), with branches at Castries, Soufrière and Vieux-Fort.

The St. Lucia Co-operative Bank Ltd., Castries.

The Government Savings Bank of which branches exist at Castries, Soufrière, Vieux-Fort, Dennery, Gros Islet, Anse-La-Raye, Micoud and Choiseul.

The St. Lucia Co-operative Bank

The St. Lucia Co-operative Bank Ltd. was established in 1937 with an authorised capital of \$150,000. The bank declared a dividend of 9 per cent. in 1957 and 1958. Statistics of deposits and loans were as follows:

Deposits

<i>Year*</i>	<i>Deposits</i> \$	<i>Withdrawals</i> \$	<i>Balance</i> \$
1955-56	918,154.49	819,777.33	1,554,569.35
1956-57	1,267,993.55	1,000,704.86	1,621,858.04
1957-58	1,276,785.96	1,099,506.03	1,799,137.97

Loans

<i>Year*</i>	<i>Loans Issued</i> \$	<i>Loans Repaid</i> \$	<i>Loans Outstanding</i> \$	<i>Interest Received</i> \$
1955-56	424,913.88	334,222.67	1,093,998.83	66,092.08
1956-57	475,183.30	390,212.30	1,178,969.83	73,527.29
1957-58	514,178.80	514,178.80	1,195,188.11	75,337.68

* The Bank's financial year ends on 30th September.

Revenue for the year ended 30th September 1958 amounted to \$92,621.32 and Expenditure to \$69,707.40, leaving a net profit of \$22,913.92.

Government Savings Bank

	1957	1958
Number of Depositors	4,367	4,717
Amount Deposited	\$184,627.09	\$160,090.58

Exchange Rates

Commission rates charged by the currency authorities for the issue and redemption of notes were: one-half per cent. plus the cost of any telegrams sent in connection with each transaction either by the Caribbean Currency Board or by the Crown Agents.

The following were the commercial banks' rates of exchange for telegraphic transfers:

<i>Selling</i>	<i>Buying</i>
\$4.82 per £1 sterling	\$4.77
\$171.50* per U.S. \$100	\$169.8*
\$179.20* per Canadian \$100	\$177.00*

* Rates fluctuated during the years but these figures show the average position.

Chapter 5: Commerce

THE values of total imports, exports and re-exports (excluding bullion and specie) were as follows:

<i>Year</i>	<i>Imports</i> \$	<i>Exports</i> \$	<i>Re-Exports</i> \$
1956	7,908,171	4,284,549	215,222
1957	8,890,999	4,440,598	162,437
1958	9,034,106	4,459,378	123,978

Principal imports and exports by quantity and value are shown in the following tables:

Principal Imports

	Unit	1956		1957		1958	
		Quantities	Value \$	Quantities	Value \$	Quantities	Value \$
Beer, Ale and Stout	gal.	22,881	63,688	28,156	80,059	34,860	100,058
Boots and Shoes	doz. pairs	7,510	209,196	9,952	295,511	6,908	266,998
Cement	ton	2,750*	149,373	3,209	185,115	3,203	178,155
Cotton Piece Goods	sq. yd.	612,525	248,029	761,875	320,219	856,076	369,526
Art Silk Piece Goods	sq. yd.	461,303	215,526	526,218	259,061	474,417	230,734
Flour	lb.	7,632,070	639,110	8,656,462	737,190	10,003,169	822,027
Machinery: Agricultural	—	—	—	—	196,300	—	98,512
Manures, Chemical	ton	1,604	232,036	2,167	388,315	2,624	359,090
Milk, Condensed	lb.	163,828	47,314	174,315	59,754	240,608	77,984
Motor Cars	no.	85	184,565	143	323,007	143	269,433
Motor Trucks	no.	28	103,881	29	104,715	39	133,363
Motor Tyres	—	—	82,545	—	108,714	—	130,934
Motor Parts	—	—	44,172	—	58,381	—	51,512
Paints and Colours	lb.	139,377	52,646	173,733	63,237	173,121	90,034
Rice	lb.	808,580	90,496	1,372,829	142,404	1,646,041	207,896
Sacks and Bags	doz.	20,512	105,388	—	3,988	16,020	85,237
Soap, Common	lb.	278,285	57,623	294,956	65,215	102,750	61,411
Spirits: Whisky	gal.	2,424	25,779	2,971	34,483	3,462	39,738
Brandy	gal.	1,238	11,082	1,588	14,483	3,941	31,153
Gin	gal.	796	6,052	1,084	8,518	1,674	13,766
Tea	lb.	11,299	16,019	6,427	8,063	13,126	16,743
Butter and Butter Substitutes	lb.	403,117	199,957	424,636	217,787	464,930	229,339
Fish	lb.	1,129,559	265,442	1,063,293	334,147	771,237	230,070

Principal Exports

	Unit	1956		1957		1958	
		Quantities	Value	Quantities	Value	Quantities	Value
Bananas	stems	783,950	\$ 1,537,220	915,651	\$ 1,884,893	1,098,174	\$ 1,906,075
Cocoa	cwt.	4,385	190,219	5,732	252,611	3,657	253,761
Coconuts	no.	1,652,008	108,418	87,050	3,986	59,300	2,640
Coconut Oil	gal.	102,551	238,434	157,851	244,689	351,373	534,814
Copra	lb.	2,466,426	334,832	2,051,392	274,687	1,738,800	232,874
Honey	lb.	18,920	2,674	58,416	7,496	43,769	6,335
Molasses	gal.	133,297	15,182	49,000	5,880	56,840	7,438
Sugar	ton	9,125	1,598,687	5,884	1,421,526	6,270	1,122,482

Direction of Trade—Imports

Sources	1956		1957		1958	
	Quantities	Value	Quantities	Value	Quantities	Value
United Kingdom	2,627,337	\$ 3,432,845	3,432,845	\$ 3,353,715	3,353,715	\$ 3,353,715
Canada	1,153,448	1,215,059	1,215,059	1,394,647	1,394,647	1,394,647
Other Commonwealth Countries	1,658,208	2,229,517	2,229,517	1,956,968	1,956,968	1,956,968
United States of America	1,623,729	791,693	791,693	864,531	864,531	864,531
Other Foreign Countries	845,449	1,221,885	1,221,885	1,464,245	1,464,245	1,464,245

Exports (excluding ships' stores)

Destination	1956		1957		1958	
	Quantities	Value	Quantities	Value	Quantities	Value
United Kingdom	3,407,284	\$ 3,565,267	3,565,267	\$ 3,277,433	3,277,433	\$ 3,277,433
Canada	2,312	1,125	1,125	8,292	8,292	8,292
Other Commonwealth Countries	686,220	754,956	754,956	933,911	933,911	933,911
United States of America	6,274	43,162	43,162	24,981	24,981	24,981
Other Foreign Countries	182,459	76,088	76,088	90,761	90,761	90,761

Chapter 6: Production

LAND UTILISATION AND TENURE

<i>Classification</i>	<i>Estimated acreage</i>
Total area, including water bodies	152,320
Total area, excluding water bodies	150,350
Permanent arable land	19,000
Permanent meadows and pastures	1,000
Wood and forest land	16,000
Other land (mainly shifting peasant cultivation)	83,000

Land and Water Conservation

Soil conservation is practised on a small scale throughout the island, but there are no laws or regulations enforcing such practices. Most of the major forest areas are owned by the Crown and are protected as water reserves by the Forest, Soil and Water Conservation Ordinance No. 6 of 1945 and No. 18 of 1951. The Forestry Department regulates deforestation and afforestation throughout the island. Squatting on Crown lands and destruction of forest trees are prohibited.

Land Ownership

Land in St. Lucia is divided into Crown and private lands.

Crown lands comprise forest reserves and other land. It is not the policy to sell, lease or rent land in the Central Forest Reserve.

Approximately 127,200 acres are in private and approximately 24,800 acres in Government ownership.

The types of land tenure are freehold, leasehold and multiple tenancy referred to locally as "family land."

Inheritance of lands is governed by the Law of Succession of the Civil Code of St. Lucia. The purchase of land is not restricted except that aliens are required to seek the permission of the Governor-in-Council prior to purchase.

Renting systems are "metayage" which refers to land "cropped" on a share basis. Share-cropping is mainly confined to the sugar valleys. The rental in the case of the sugar valleys is calculated at present at one-third of the gross value of the crop.

The Agricultural Department programme, in relation to the use and ownership of land, is confined to the distribution of improved planting materials, small soil conservation projects, rental of heavy mechanical units, improvements of pastures and an afforestation programme.

AGRICULTURE

In the absence of adequate data on domestic consumption, export figures are used from year to year as a guide to trends in local production. A summary of the principal agricultural exports from 1956 to 1958 is given on page 26.

The use of mechanical tillage, the application of fertilisers and the adoption of inter-cropping have increased the yield of crop per acre. Worthy of note, too, is the success of the practice adopted by estate owners, whereby bananas have been established on coconut-growing land.

The Agricultural Department programme, financed by Colonial Development and Welfare funds, provides for assistance to peasants in the development of their holdings. Funds have also been allocated under the same plan for the distribution of planting material, at a nominal price, to estate owners and peasants.

The high prices and keen demand experienced in the past few years have encouraged producers to improve and expand the cultivation of export crops other than sugar, and the assistance given by way of Government expenditure on feeder roads, planting materials, instructional staff, and special contributions to the banana industry has produced a noticeable response.

SUGAR

During the period under review there has been a considerable decline in sugar production. The Dennergy Factory Co., which produced an average of 2,500 tons per annum, ceased producing sugar and changed over to bananas.

As a result of late planting there was a drop in the production on the Roseau and Cul-de-Sac estates from 7,850 tons in 1956 to 6,975 tons in 1958.

The cane farmer's contribution to sugar production also fell from 11,317 tons in 1957 to 10,317 tons in 1958, as a result of conversion to the planting of bananas.

Bananas

In 1958 banana production exceeded one million stems. There was an increase not only in the amount of bunches produced but also in the average weight of the bunches. This was largely due to the increased application of fertilizers made available under the Banana Association Credit Scheme.

Cocoa

Cocoa exports were 3,657 cwt. valued at \$253,761 in 1958, as against 5,732 cwt. in 1957 valued at \$252,611. The rise in this

commodity has not been as rapid as expected owing to the going out of production of many old trees while the new clones have not been as prolific or early in bearing as formerly believed. There is also a tendency to neglect cocoa plantations in favour of the quicker cash crop, bananas.

Coconuts

The production of coconuts rose from 2,953 tons in 1951 to 3,422 tons in 1958 and raw oil increased from 286,715 imperial gallons in 1957 to 289,421 imperial gallons in 1958.

Animal Husbandry

The production of livestock particularly in the Vieux-Fort area made satisfactory progress. New strains were introduced by artificial insemination from imported bulls. The progress is due to the free veterinary service given to cattle owners under the Livestock Development Scheme and also to the expansion of Pangola Grass.

Agricultural Department

The department consisted of one Agricultural Superintendent, two Agricultural Assistants, two Senior Agricultural Instructors and one Veterinary Officer.

Supplementary staff provided by Colonial Development and Welfare funds included one Senior Field Officer, three Agricultural Assistants, 12 Agricultural Instructors, one Assistant Agricultural Superintendent, three Field Assistants, two Cocoa Nurserymen, one Technical Assistant, one Produce Inspector, one Superintendent of Agricultural Machinery and one Co-operative Societies Officer.

The policy of the department is:

- (a) to investigate and publicise better methods of land use, crop cultivation and livestock rearing;
- (b) to propagate and distribute improved varieties and strains of crops and livestock;
- (c) to evolve measures for the prevention, control and/or eradication of pests and disease of crops and livestock;
- (d) to regularise, maintain and improve forests and forest reserves and foster the controlled economic exploitation of timber.

FORESTRY

A new forestry development scheme (D.2892) was approved by the Secretary of State in 1956, and a free grant of £12,500 was provided from Colonial Development and Welfare funds for its implementation.

The following is a summary of timber treated during 1957 and 1958:

Timber Treated	1957		1958	
	Quantity bd. ft.	Value	Quantity bd. ft.	Value
Undressed Timber purchased .	95,589	\$ 12,808.69	87,599	\$ 11,081.18
Dressed Timber produced .	81,991	n.a.	84,313	n.a.
Dressed Timber sold .	81,993	19,392.00	100,762	27,110.35

Timber cut and extracted during the period under review, according to available records was as follows:

	Crown Forest cu. ft.	Private Forest cu. ft.
1957	53,207	12,326
1958	41,156	16,764

Imports of timber were as follows:

	1957 sq. ft.	1958 sq. ft.
Lumber undressed	76,033	83,664
„ dressed	110,699	108,643

CO-OPERATIVES

At the end of 1958 there were three active registered co-operative societies—two consumer societies and one credit society. Five credit union groups were in training prior to registration.

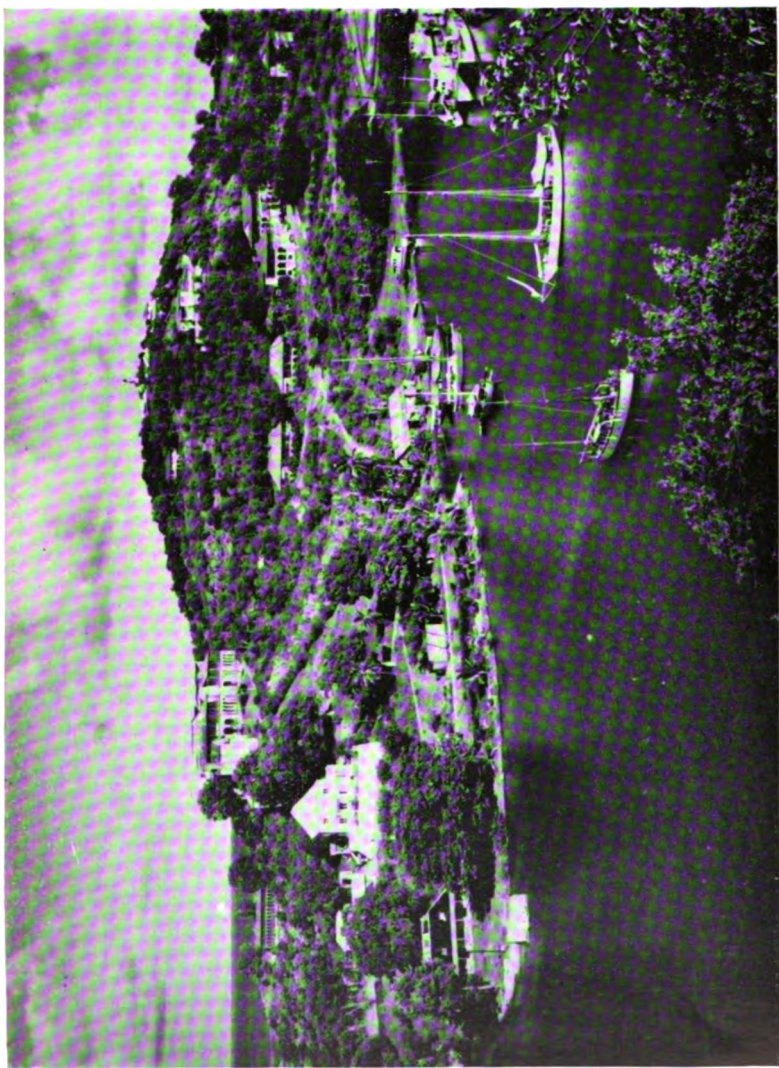
Co-operative activity has entered a new phase of development. The vacant post of co-operative societies officer had been filled. The Co-operative Department is being re-organised, and a co-operative education programme aimed at the membership of registered societies is being implemented.

Chapter 7: Social Services

EDUCATION

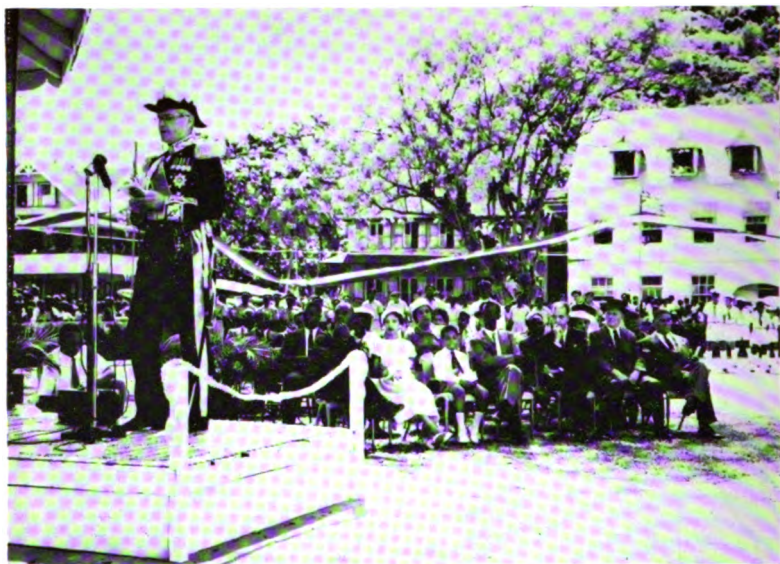
IN 1957 there were 51 primary schools and two secondary schools receiving grants-in-aid from the Government and one Government primary school. Of the grant-aided schools, 45 were Roman Catholic, three Anglican and three Methodist.

There were 17,549 children on the roll of the primary schools in 1957 with an average attendance of 12,462. In 1957 the congestion in the Castries Roman Catholic schools was relieved by the opening



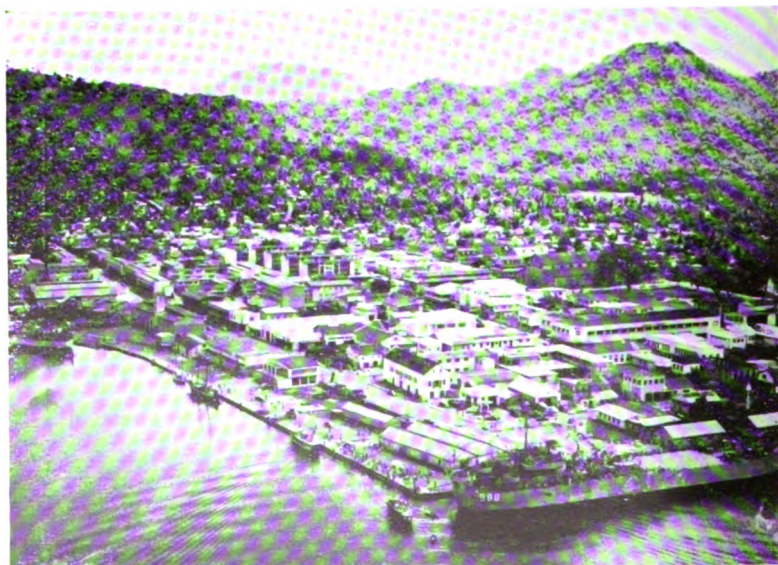
(Acknowledgment to Leo St. Helene)

Yacht Basin, Vigie



(Acknowledgment to Leo St. Helene)

The Governor-General of The West Indies (Lord Hailes) delivering a public address in Columbus Square, Castries, on the occasion of his first visit to the territory



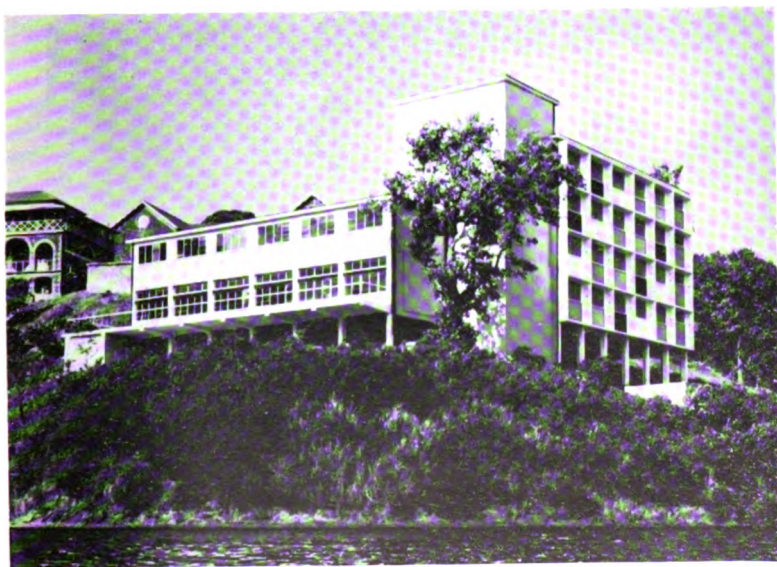
(Acknowledgment to Leo St. Helene)

A view of Castries



Reduit Beach

(Acknowledgment to Leo St. Helene)



Nurses' Hostel, Victoria Hospital

(Acknowledgment to Leo St. Helene)



(Acknowledgment to Leo St. Helene)

Loading Sugar Cane

of an annexe to the Marchand Infant School. In 1958 the Fond St. Jacques Infant School building was completed with the assistance of Colonial Development and Welfare funds.

In 1958 the following schools were being replaced by permanent structures under a Colonial Development and Welfare scheme:

Desruisseaux R.C. School
La Ressource R.C. Combined School
Saltibus R.C. Combined School
Canaries R.C. Infant School
Castries Anglican Primary School.

The Marchand Infant School building was also being rebuilt with funds provided by the Bishop of Castries.

In 1957 \$286,898 was spent from colony funds on primary education and \$527,017 in 1958.

There were 448 primary school teachers in 1957 and 484 in 1958; of these 112 were certificated in both years. Of the number certificated in 1958, 29 were trained.

During 1957-58, a tutorial staff of six supervising teachers attached to the Education Department was responsible for the training of uncertificated assistants and pupil teachers. They conducted week-end classes in four centres during each term and one-week courses during each vacation. Vacation courses were also held for head teachers and certificated assistants.

Two teachers entered Erdiston Training College in 1957 and in 1958. In 1958 two completed a two-year course of training at Erdiston, bringing the number of teachers who have been trained at Erdiston to seven.

The supervising teachers also conducted a series of lectures during 1957 and 1958 for teachers preparing for the A.C.P. Examination.

St. Mary's College, a Roman Catholic boys' secondary school, had an enrolment of 322 during 1957 and 340 in 1958. It received a grant of \$34,839 in 1958. St. Joseph's Convent, a Roman Catholic girls' secondary school, had an enrolment of 367 in 1957 and 458 in 1958. It received a grant of \$29,455 in 1958.

The headmaster and senior members of the staff of St. Mary's College are Brothers of the Presentation Order; six of the masters are university graduates. In the case of St. Joseph's Convent, the headmistress and the majority of the members of the staff are Sisters of St. Joseph of Cluny; three of the sisters and one of the lay staff are graduates.

Both schools present students annually for the Cambridge School Certificate and Higher School Certificate. At St. Mary's College, general science is taken regularly up to Higher School Certificate level.

During 1957-58, the Police Band Master visited primary schools to teach, advise and assess the standards of singing. At vacation courses he gave instructions to teachers in the rudiments of music.

At St. Joseph's Convent a number of students take Trinity College of Music examinations in both instrumental music and singing.

The Extra-Mural Department of the University College of the West Indies continued to be the main body responsible for the organisation of adult classes in the island. Classes conducted in Castries included arithmetic, art, drama, education, English language, English literature, French and Spanish.

The number of classes for the year ending 31st August 1957 was 196. The aggregate attendance was 1,526.

Other organisations such as the Catholic Youth Organisation and the Womens' Association also conducted classes.

PUBLIC HEALTH

The medical services are administered by a Senior Medical Officer who is also Medical Officer of Health, and who is responsible to the Minister of Social Services. The island is divided into six medical districts, each of which is under the charge of a District Medical Officer.

Hospital and Institutions

The Victoria Hospital, of approximately 120 beds, situated in Castries, the capital of the island, caters for all major surgery and most of the serious non-surgical cases. It has also a large maternity department, somewhat over 1,000 confinements taking place annually in the institution. The hospital is administered by a resident surgeon who is assisted by a physician and a resident medical officer. Annual admissions are approximately 5,000.

A tuberculosis hospital of 50 beds was opened in November 1958 and forms an annex to the Victoria Hospital.

There are three District Hospitals under the charge of District Medical Officers—Soufrière Hospital (20 beds), Vieux-Fort Hospital (22 beds) and Dennerly Hospital (14 beds). In addition there is a Mental Hospital of 125 beds and a Home for the Aged and Infirm of 120 beds.

A Leper Home of 20 beds was closed in October 1958 when 12 inmates were transferred to the Mahaica Leprosarium in British Guiana.

Auxiliary Services

Sub-departments of the Medical Department are as follows:

The Sanitation Department is under a Senior Sanitary Inspector with a staff of nine District Sanitary Inspectors, eight of whom hold the Sanitary Inspector's Certificate of the Royal Society of Health.

The Public Health Engineering Unit is under an Engineering Assistant.

The Public Health Nursing Service is under a Lady Health Visitor.

The Dental Service is run by one Government Dental Surgeon.

Health Centres are established in nearly all populous areas in the island; each has a resident District Nurse and is under the charge of the District Medical Officer. In addition to curative work these centres undertake maternity and child health work and run venereal disease and tuberculosis clinics. In 1957 new centres were built at the following places: La Croix Maingot, Babonneau, Micoud, Laborie and Bexon.

The Public Health Engineering Unit and the Public Health Nursing Service are financed by Colonial Development and Welfare funds.

Public Health Campaigns

The Malaria Eradication Campaign, started with assistance from W.H.O. and UNICEF in 1953 as an Insect Control Programme, was changed in 1956 to malaria eradication. Before the start of the campaign in 1953 an average of some 10,000 cases of malaria were reported annually; in 1957 there were 295 notifications and 67 in 1958: of the latter only 38 were confirmed cases of malaria.

The Expanded Treponematoses Campaign, started with assistance from W.H.O. and UNICEF in November 1957 was completed in August 1958. The aim of the campaign was the eradication of yaws and the control of venereal disease. During the campaign some 65,000 persons received an injection of penicillin.

The Environmental Sanitation Programme, which aims at providing safe water supplies and excreta-disposal systems in all rural areas in the island, was organised in 1958 and field work is to start early in 1959. This campaign too has been made possible by assistance provided by W.H.O. and UNICEF.

Major Diseases

Helminthic diseases and malnutrition in its various forms are the commonest causes of child morbidity. Paralytic poliomyelitis is rare, four cases were reported in 1957 and none in 1958; there is strong evidence however that polio viruses are widespread in the community.

Enteric fever, usually typhoid, is endemic and localised outbreaks occur from time to time.

Pulmonary tuberculosis is common, while bone and glandular tuberculosis are less frequently seen.

Malaria is no longer the major problem it was before the eradication campaign was launched.

HOUSING AND TOWN PLANNING

Castries Regional Scheme. An amendment to this scheme extended its northern boundary to include all land west of the Castries-Gros Islet road up to Reduit.

Castries Regional (First Supplementary) Scheme. The laying of water mains, electricity, footpaths and drains in the Vide Bouteille Housing Scheme is now completed, and work on the playing field and the canalising of the stream is progressing slowly. All building lots within the area of the scheme are sold and there is a demand for more lots.

Castries Regional (Fourth Supplementary) Scheme "A". With the exception of one which is tenanted, all the lots in this scheme have been sold.

Soufrière Regional Scheme. Under this scheme some 32 private buildings have been constructed within the area destroyed by the Soufrière fire of 9th to 10th June 1955. The Government low-cost housing estate at Palmiste, comprising 24 buildings, accommodated 81 families of fire-victims leaving 64 families still in temporary shelters within the burnt area. Plans to relieve the latter group are under way. The scheme was varied to provide funds for the construction of 40 hire-purchase houses; of these 20 have been built but owing to the fact that only five have been purchased, construction of the other 20 has been delayed.

SOCIAL WELFARE

Social welfare work is undertaken both by the Government and voluntary agencies.

The Public Relations and Social Welfare Officer advises Government on all welfare matters. He also administers public assistance, and is responsible for probation work in connection with juvenile delinquents, the promotion of youth activities and the encouragement of voluntary effort.

The staff of the department comprises the Public Relations and Social Welfare Officer, a senior clerk, a relieving officer and a messenger.

Youth Organisations

There are several youth clubs and youth organisations in the colony. Boy Scouts, Girl Guides and Catholic youth organisations are very active.

Juvenile Delinquency

The main causes of juvenile delinquency are poor economic home conditions and lack of parental control. A Juvenile Court sits in the Magistrate's Court in Castries once a month. In 1957 a temporary Home for Delinquents was opened and in 1958 approval was received for the establishment of a Farm School for 40 delinquent boys. The school will provide basic primary education as well as training in farming, handicrafts and certain trades.

Voluntary Organisations

The St. Vincent de Paul Society, the Ladies of Charity, the Women's Association and the Red Cross Society continued their very valuable welfare activities.

Relief of Destitution

There is no system of social insurance or old age pensions, but funds are provided by Government for the relief of the aged, the infirm and children under the age of 14 who are destitute.

The number of persons who received out-door relief, and the amount spent in 1957 and 1958 were as follows:

<i>Year</i>	<i>Number of Persons</i>	<i>Amount \$</i>
1957	1,150	20,000
1958	1,175	26,000

The Government also maintains a Home for the Aged and Infirm. An average of 90 persons was maintained at the home in 1958 at a cost of \$27,730.

About 70 friendly societies provide their members with sick, burial and death benefits.

Destitute ex-servicemen of the first World War are given a monthly allowance.

Chapter 8: Legislation

SEVENTEEN Ordinances and 42 Statutory Rules and Orders were passed during 1957 and 15 Ordinances and 42 Statutory Rules and Orders during 1958.

Of the Ordinances passed in 1957, 10 were amending Ordinances. The most important Ordinances were as follows:

The Loan (Economic Development) Ordinance makes provision for raising money for development works including:

- (a) The improvement of the Castries water supply

- (b) The construction of a new Customs bonded warehouse
- (c) The completion of Castries reconstruction
- (d) The completion of the Dennery—Vieux-Fort road
- (e) The purchase of Vigie Peninsular to provide an anchorage for yachts
- (f) The sewerage of Castries
- (g) The designing of Soufrière electricity scheme
- (h) A Government housing scheme for Castries
- (i) The working of a quarry at Bisée.
- (j) A housing scheme at Vide Bouteille.

The Soufrière (Reconstruction) Loans Ordinance to provide for loans to persons whose buildings were destroyed by the fire in Soufrière on 9th and 10th June 1955.

The Veterinary Surgeons Ordinance provides for the registration of veterinary surgeons and for the appointment of veterinary officers who are entitled to demand and receive fees according to a tariff set forth in a schedule to the Ordinance.

The Holidays with Pay Ordinance makes provision for holidays with pay for employees employed for remuneration under a contract of service, apprenticeship, or labour. Every employee at the end of each year is entitled to an annual holiday of at least 14 days.

In 1958, seven of the 15 Ordinances were amending Ordinances. The most important Ordinances were as follows:

The Vigie Airport Ordinance provides for the management, control and supervision of the Vigie Airport.

The Agricultural Credit Fund Ordinance provides for the establishment and administration of an agricultural credit fund and for the appointment of a committee to carry out the provisions relating to loans and advances.

The Police Ordinance amends and consolidates the law relating to the organisation, administration, duties and discipline of the Police Force and provides for matters incidental thereto.

The Trade Ordinance provides for the maintenance and distribution of supplies and for other matters incidental thereto and connected therewith.

Chapter 9: Justice, Police and Prisons

JUSTICE

It is convenient to begin a review of the law of St. Lucia from the capitulation of the island to General Grinfield on 22nd June 1803, and the assurance to the inhabitants by Proclamation that they

should continue in the enjoyment of their rights in accordance with the laws which existed immediately prior to the cession. The Proclamation of 1803, therefore, continued the law and ordinances of the French monarchy as the law of the colony, at least in civil matters.

In 1876, owing to uncertainty concerning the law in civil matters, the Civil Code Ordinance was passed. The Civil Code was published in 1879 and the Code of Civil Procedure in 1881, both based on the ancient law of the island with such amendments as the circumstances of the time required.

Broadly speaking, the law relating to commercial matters is based on principles of English law. The Code was compiled in 1916: it follows faithfully the lines of existing English statutes. In that year also, statutes of St. Lucia were revised and collected into two volumes entitled *Revised Ordinances of St. Lucia, 1916*. Subordinate legislation was collected in a separate volume entitled *Revised Rules and Orders 1916*. It was not till 1920 that the Criminal Code (Law and Procedure) made its appearance. This, too, is based upon English Common Law and Statutes.

Since 1916, new laws, whether by way of amendments to the codes or otherwise, have been published in annual volumes of the Ordinances and Statutory Rules and Orders of St. Lucia.

A new edition of the laws, up to June 1957, has been completed and is expected to be published in 1959.

For the administration of justice the island has been divided into three Judicial Districts. The District Courts of Judicature are presided over by Magistrates who exercise a summary jurisdiction in civil and criminal matters.

The present Superior Court was constituted by the Leeward Islands and Windward Islands (Courts) Order-in-Council, 1939, what was formerly the Royal Court becoming a circuit of the Supreme Court of the Windward Islands and Leeward Islands. The Court has unlimited original jurisdiction in all civil or criminal matters, and Admiralty jurisdiction within the meaning and intent of the Colonial Courts of Admiralty Act, 1890, and an appellate jurisdiction over the District Courts. In civil matters which are exclusively assigned to the District Courts, the Supreme Court has no original jurisdiction.

The Windward Islands and Leeward Islands Court of Appeal hears appeals from the Supreme Court in civil and criminal matters, in accordance with the rules contained in Statutory Rules and Orders, No. 67 of 1940, as amended. Normally, at least three judges constitute the Court of Appeal, but the rules prescribe classes of appeals to be determined by two judges. The classes so far prescribed are contained in S.R. & O., No. 36 of 1941.

Formerly, the West Indian Court of Appeal was an alternative court of appeal in certain matters. Under the new constitution of the Federation of the West Indies which came into effect on 3rd January 1958, the Federal Supreme Court was constituted with a jurisdiction which replaced that of the West Indian Court of Appeal. The Federal Supreme Court also has an original jurisdiction in certain matters.

In the Supreme Court in 1957, there were 37 criminal cases, eight appeals and 68 civil cases. In 1958 there were 49 criminal cases, six appeals and 68 civil cases.

Particulars of the Supreme Court criminal cases are shown in the following tables:

Supreme Court Criminal Cases in 1957 and 1958

Year	Discharges		Convictions	
	Adults	Juveniles	Adults	Juveniles
1957	4	—	34	—
1958	8	—	49	—

Punishments Imposed by Supreme Court in 1957 and 1958

	Fined	Whipped	Imprisonment				Bound Over
			Under 1 year	Up to 3 years	Over 3 years	Life	
1957	3	—	2	21	10	—	1
1958	1	—	4	37	5	—	2

POLICE

The Force is charged with the maintenance of law and order throughout the island. It is armed and trained in semi-military duties and is liable to actual military service in the defence of the colony against external aggression.

Auxiliaries

Authority exists for the enrolment of Rural Constables whose duties are to assist the Regular Police in maintaining law and order throughout the island. They receive no training but perform duties when called out by the Superintendent of Police or when offences come to their notice and no regular police are immediately available. Payment is made to them when they perform duties. The strength at the end of 1957 was 203 and at the end of 1958 was 178.

Authority also exists for the enrolment of Special Reserve Police, whose duties are to assist the Regular Police in maintaining law and order throughout the island. They receive basic training in general police duties and procedure, and perform duties when called out by the Superintendent of Police. Payment is made to them when they perform duties. The initial enrolment of Special Reserve Police took place in 1957 and a second batch was enrolled in 1958. The strength at the end of 1957 was one officer and 24 other ranks, and at the end of 1958 was one officer and 49 other ranks.

Civil Disturbances

During a strike which took place in March 1957 in the sugar valleys, considerable lawlessness occurred, and 85 persons were charged before the Courts and convicted. The strike lasted for five weeks.

There were no civil disturbances in 1958.

Telecommunications

A police V.H.F. wireless system was put into operation late in 1957; it links up the three main townships with headquarters in Castries. In addition two mobile sets were in operation.

Establishment and Organisation

The authorised establishment of the Force in 1957 and 1958 was:

	1957	1958
Superintendent	1	1
Deputy Superintendent	1	1
Assistant Superintendents	2	2
Inspectors	3	3
Bandmaster	1	1
Station Sergeants	5	5
Sergeants	12	15
Corporals	29	30
Constables	168	179
Band Cadets	6	3
TOTAL	228	240

The Force is organised in three Divisions and these are subdivided into eleven Police Stations, exclusive of Police Headquarters. The Police are responsible for the issuing of motor vehicle and firearm registrations and licences, for the inspection of motor vehicles and for the immigration and fire services. The Superintendent is Chief Immigration Officer and is in charge of the Fire Service. He is also Inspector of Weights and Measures.

Training

During the period under review, recruit training was carried out exclusively at the Regional Police Training Centre in Barbados.

The physical and educational standard of applicants for enlistment is, on the whole, low, and it is difficult to attract men with a secondary education.

In 1958, 16 recruits including one woman police constable, the first in the Force, were enlisted and trained in Barbados, compared with 29 in 1957.

In 1958 two courses were held at the Barbados Centre for n.c.o.s: four corporals and four sergeants attended.

Band

In addition to being in attendance at all official parades, the Band provides concerts regularly throughout the island and is very popular.

Other Duties

Traffic and Licensing

(i) <i>Traffic Cases and Accidents</i>					1957	1958
Cases	.	.	.	.	484	599
Warnings	.	.	.	.	46	51
Accidents	.	.	.	.	173	190

There was one fatal accident in 1957 and three in 1958. One hundred and three persons were injured in 1957 and 146 in 1958.

(ii) <i>Motor Vehicles, Licences and Permits</i>					1957	1958
Motor Vehicles	.	.	.	.	845	918
Drivers' Licences	.	.	.	.	569	481
Learners' Permits	.	.	.	.	682	721
Driving Tests	.	.	.	.	516	524
Bicycles	.	.	.	.	1,050	1,224

Passports and Permits

The following travel documents were issued:

	1957	1958
Passports	1,775	2,172
Police Permits	510	557
Emergency Travel Documents	5	6
Seamen's Certificate of Nationality and Identity	79	62
Certificates of Identity Affidavits	42	39

Crime

The total number of cases reported to the Police during 1957 was 2,841 compared with 2,880 in 1958.

Statistics of crimes and offences are given in Appendices II and III.

PRISONS

There is a prison for male offenders in Castries and one for female offenders at La Toc, approximately two miles from Castries.

During 1958 the prison staff comprised 27 officers as follows: one superintendent, one Chief Officer, one Principal Officer, one Sick Nurse Officer, five Officers Grade I, 16 Officers Grade II, one Matron and one Assistant Matron.

Mr. C. J. T. Anderson, Superintendent of Prisons, was transferred to Jamaica in March 1957 and Mr. F. G. Yorke, Secretary to the Ministry for Social Services, assumed duties as Superintendent of Prisons in September.

The Prison Farm was hit by the severe drought in the early months of 1958, but the banana plantation which had to be completely replanted made satisfactory progress later in the year.

Much attention has been paid to the indoor trades particularly to the furniture-making section which has shown a marked improvement in output and quality. Concrete block-making has recently been started and is carried out on a small scale.

The cost of maintaining and operating the prisons was as follows:

		<i>Expenditure</i>	<i>Revenue</i>
		\$	\$
1954		44,396	4,156
1955		44,401	2,562
1956		48,452	4,441
1957		55,782	6,578
1958		59,590	6,870

*Chapter 10: Public Utilities and Public Works***WATER SUPPLY**

THE Castries waterworks draws its supply from surface water originating in a watershed situated some five miles from the town of Castries. At its inception a large forest reserve was created at the upper level of the watershed, and the supply was wholly a gravity one, but within recent years the necessity for extension has resulted in the inclusion in the system of a pumped supply not originating wholly in the water reserve.

At the headworks of the gravity supply, low diversion weirs across the streams at their upper reaches direct the water to screening chambers and thence to the purification plant through asbestos-cement and bitumen-lined steel pipes. In the case of the pumped supply, stream intakes constructed across the streams at lower elevations form a sump from which the water is pumped through similar pipes to the purification plant.

The waterworks system has recently undergone considerable extension and improvement to bring capacity to 800,000 gallons per day, more than double the previous capacity. The change has been effected by reconstructing the gravity mains and installing five electrically-operated centrifugal well-pumps in place of two former oil engine-driven centrifugal pumps. The latter are being retained for emergencies. The pumps operate against overall heads of 350 and 440 feet from two pumping stations.

At the purification plant, raw matter is subjected to the following treatment: sedimentation with the help of a coagulant, filtration through rapid gravity filters, sterilisation by the ammonia-chlorine process and restoration of the PH value by the use of hydrated lime.

Two service reservoirs provide storage for 800,000 gallons. Owing to the considerable difference of elevation between the central area of the town and the suburban area, the distribution mains operate under two different heads. Mains with hydrants for supplying shipping with water at rates up to about 10,000 gallons per hour are situated along the wharf. House connections are made at the householders' expense. A liberal number of street stand-pipes provide water for those homes which do not have a private service.

Every dwelling within the Castries water area pays a water rate, as do those outside that area which have a supply.

For fire protection, a salt-water main has been installed which supplements the fresh water mains. Its capacity is 1,200 gallons per minute, but it is confined to that part of the town zoned mainly for commerce, industry and offices.

The supply is controlled by the Castries Town Council.

ELECTRICITY

There are three diesel-operated generating stations and one hydro-electric station. The stations are operated by Government and current is supplied to Castries, Vieux-Fort, Soufrière, Laborie, and Anse la Raye.

The Castries station, which was built in 1933, was extended in 1958 and a 300 kW generating set installed.

* In 1958, 1.8 million units were generated by the Castries station. There were approximately 2,000 consumers.

PUBLIC WORKS

Important works completed were:

Nurses' Quarters, Victoria Hospital
Police Station, Soufrière
District Administration Building, Soufrière
Restoration of Central Library
Slipway, Castries
Reconstruction of Roseau Bridge
Major repairs to Cul-de-Sac Bridge
General Post Office and Municipal Building.

Chapter 11: Communications

SHIPPING

Main Ports and Anchorages

Castries

Castries Harbour is situated on the west coast of the island in latitude 14° 01' N., longitude 61° W., and is entered between Pointe D'Estross and Tapion Rock about three-and-a-half cables southward with the leading marks in line, bearing 121° true. There are depths from four to six fathoms throughout this channel which leads to the wharves.

The harbour can accommodate all but the largest vessels and is considered one of the most sheltered anchorages in the West Indies. There is unlimited anchorage in all but abnormal weather outside the harbour entrance in between 10 to 15 fathoms of water. Vessels of 25 ft. draught and under may anchor as convenient in the stream at the discretion of the Harbour Master. There are two transit sheds of a total area of 11,280 sq. ft. and an estimated capacity of 5,784 tons.

Wharves

(1) Northern Wharf, 628½ ft. in length with an overall depth of 27 ft. alongside.

(2) Western Wharf, 552 ft. in length with an overall depth of 24 ft. alongside.

(3) The Reclamation Cable Depot Wharf, length 300 ft. with overall depth of three-and-a-half fathoms. This wharf is reserved for the use of Cable Ships when in port.

For further details see *West Indies Pilot*, Volume II, page 144.

Vieux-Fort

Vieux-Fort, situated at the south-eastern extremity of the island in latitude 13° 43' N., longitude 60° 57' W., provides a safe anchorage except when the wind is in a southerly direction. The bay, which was used during the last war for delivering supplies to the American base, has a pier 1,150 ft. long, and is now used by the four chartered refrigerated ships loading bananas for the United Kingdom every seven days, the Three Bay Line ships, and barges. At the head of the pier there is a depth of 31 ft. alongside and vessels with a draught of 18 ft. and 500 ft. in length can berth on either side of the outer end.

Facilities also exist for the supply of water. Anchorage is provided in eight fathoms of water south-east of the pier. This port is used as port of entry.

SHIPPING SERVICES

The following lines called at St. Lucia during 1957 and 1958:

External

T. & J. Harrison Line: Average once a month to Europe calling at the other islands of the West Indies, with cargo only.

Saguenay Terminals: From Canada once monthly.

Royal Netherlands Steamship Co.: From Europe, average once a month with transhipment from Trinidad to the islands.

Three Bays Line: Once a month from the U.S.A.

Federal Government Shipping Service: Average twice monthly with passenger and cargo.

Fratelli - Grimaldi, Linea C: Average twice a month with passengers only to Europe via the islands.

Booth Line: Average fortnightly with passenger and cargo to U.S.A. Vialti islands.

Compagnie Generale Transatlantique: Average once a month to Europe via the islands with passengers and cargo.

Local Shipping

M.V. *Darewood*: Twice a month to Barbados, St. Vincent, Grenada and occasionally to Curacao and Aruba with passengers and cargo.

M.V. *Lady Joy*: Average twice a month to Barbados, with passengers and cargo.

M.V. *Michael David* and *Christine C*: Average four times a month to Barbados, St. Vincent, Grenada and Trinidad.

Aux. Schooner *Grenville Lass*: Average once weekly to Martinique, leaving Castries on Tuesday and returning on Friday.

Other sailing vessels, auxiliary schooners and sloops: to the islands, mainly Barbados, Trinidad, St. Vincent, and Grenada, at an average of 12 times a month.

Statistics of Ships Using Ports

1957

Description	Number	Net Tonnage	Gross Tonnage
Warships: H.M.S.	1	2,400	2,400
H.M.C.S.	1	2,000	2,654
Landing Barges	12	24,250	37,765
Steamers	53	177,089	307,501
Motor Ships	202	368,864	687,064
Motor Vessels	200	16,990	27,555
Cable Ships	18	10,650	30,413
Tankers	9	15,795	26,724
Yachts	227	4,765	5,702
Auxiliary Schooners	134	5,804	6,584
Auxiliary Sloops	31	815	963
Sailing Vessels	158	5,602	7,144
Fishing Vessels	40	127	171
TOTAL	1,086	635,151	1,142,640

1958

Description	Number	Net Tonnage	Gross Tonnage
H.M.S.	5	23,800	24,650
Mine Sweeper	1	300	300
Steamers	39	135,416	227,685
Motor Ships	228	339,256	666,523
Motor Vessels	214	17,255	33,420
Cable Ships	9	6,213	15,526
Tankers	13	9,983	19,169
Yachts	318	8,877	10,675
Auxiliary Schooners	187	8,040	10,973
Auxiliary Sloops	43	813	935
Sailing Vessels	110	298	345
Flying-Fish Craft	4	80	112
Fishing Craft	11	46	47
Motor Launch	1	1	1
TOTAL	1,183	550,378	1,010,361

There were 6,760 inward passengers and 8,174 outward in 1957; 8,386 inward and 9,715 outward in 1958.

ROADS

During 1957 and 1958 some 24 miles of new roads were constructed.

The following road projects were tackled during the period under review:

Fond St. Jacques-Murray Road (first section) .	completed
Angere-Desruisseaux-Beausejour	under construction
Morne Roseau	completed
Millet-Venus	under construction
Anse Galette Valley Road (first section) .	completed
Volet-Mahaut-Palmiste	under construction
Pillet-Bonavista-Bosquet d'or	under construction
Canaries Valley Road	completed
Fond d'Assau	under construction
Crown Lands-Marc	under construction
Marchand-Forestierre	under construction
Warwick-Saltibus	completed

CIVIL AVIATION

There are two airports in St. Lucia, Vigie Airport and Beane Field Airport.

Vigie Airport is situated about 2½ miles north-west of Castries. This airfield was built with a Colonial Development and Welfare grant in 1942, and is operated by the Government of St. Lucia. It has one runway with a bituminous surface 4,500 feet by 250 feet. The runway is at present being extended to 5,800 feet, and a new parking ramp is being constructed to accommodate more aircraft of larger capacity than those at present using the field. It is hoped that when this work is completed the field will accommodate aircraft up to a DC 6 class with a possible weight restriction. The field is available for daylight operation only.

The only scheduled operation at Vigie is provided by B.W.I.A. and unscheduled commercial services are provided by the St. Vincent Government Air Service and Leeward Islands Air Transport. B.W.I.A. connects St. Lucia with Trinidad, Grenada, Barbados, Martinique and Antigua with DC 3 aircraft. The St. Vincent Government Air Service operates from St. Vincent and the Leeward Islands Air Transport from Antigua.

Fuelling services are provided by Messrs. Shell and Regent Petroleum Distributors Ltd. and are available to non-scheduled operators on request.

Aeronautical telecommunications are maintained by International Aeradio (Caribbean) Ltd. who operate during hours promulgated by Notam or on request.

A V.H.F. communications scheme to connect the islands from Trinidad to Puerto Rico is now in process of installation and should be in operation during 1960.

Statistics of aircraft movements and passengers at Vigie were as follows:

	1957		1958	
	<i>In</i>	<i>Out</i>	<i>In</i>	<i>Out</i>
Aircraft Movements .	614	614	761	761
Passengers	3,735	3,731	4,947	4,662

Beane Field is situated 40 miles from Castries on the southern end of the island. This airfield was built by the United States Government during the second World War. It is at present "deactivated" and is available for use only by special request to the Government of St. Lucia.

It has two runways built of concrete, both being 5,000 feet by 2,500 feet. No services are provided at this field.

POSTS

External

During the years under review British West Indian Airways connecting the British and French West Indian Islands from Jamaica to British Guiana continued to carry mail. Ten flights were provided by B.W.I.A. each week. Connections to Dominica and St. Vincent were made via Barbados by an amphibian aircraft of British Guiana Airways Ltd. Air mail opportunities were also provided from time to time to and from Aruba, Curaçao and St. Lucia by K.L.M. Air mails to the U.S.A., Canada, Curacao, Aruba and Cayenne were forwarded as closed despatches via Trinidad, and air mails to the United Kingdom were forwarded via Trinidad and Barbados to connect with the planes of British Overseas Airways Corporation.

The volume of air correspondence continued to increase steadily.

Surface mails to and from the United Kingdom were carried by various shipping lines.

Surface mails to the West Indian islands and British Guiana were forwarded by the s.s. *West Indian* calling at all ports from Puerto Rico to British Guiana monthly. From April 1958 the s.s. *West Indian* was replaced by the steamers *Oluf Sven* and *Hermann Langreder*. Surface mails to the U.S.A. and Canada were forwarded by these steamers through Barbados and Trinidad for onward transmission.

Internal

Internal communications were carried out by motor bus under contract plying between Castries and Fieux-Fort calling at Dennery, Micoud, Patience and Desruisseaux. The opening of a direct road from Castries to Soufrière via Canaries and Anse-La-Raye has resulted in regular bus services between the places. Communication with some coastal towns and villages was carried out by two motor vessels plying between Castries, Anse-La-Raye, Canaries, Soufrière, Choiseul and Laborie five times a week. These services provide for carriage of mails, cargo and passengers. A number of motor buses run by private enterprise also ply between Castries and the coastal towns.

Postal Work

In 1957 three sub-post offices were established at Monchy, La Croix Maingot and Leslie Land and in 1958 three at Ti Rocher, Grace and Victoria.

To mark the opening of the First Federal Parliament a special issue of commemorative stamps of 3 cent, 6 cent, and 12 cent denominations was placed on sale on 22nd April 1958 for a period of twelve months. Post offices were opened for a short time on that day for the sale of these stamps, and the General Post Office Castries sold \$2,621 worth.

In 1957 total sales of stamps in 1957 amounted to \$97,038, and sales by Crown Agents to \$4,612, compared with \$109,829 and \$19,234 respectively in 1958.

In 1957, 13,390 parcels were received and 1,513 were despatched, compared with 13,083 and 1,740 respectively in 1958. The amount of import duty collected on parcels was \$97,730 in 1957 and \$91,577 in 1958.

The value of U.S. money orders paid in 1957 was \$54,852 compared with \$48,817 in 1958.

The number of telegraphic money orders received for payment from the United Kingdom in 1957 was 194 valued at \$24,802, compared with 157 amounting to \$17,835 in 1958.

Owing to the increase in business and trade generally, and also to emigration to the United Kingdom and other West Indian islands, the work of the Post Office continued to increase rapidly. The value of money orders and postal orders received from the United Kingdom and paid in St. Lucia has increased to an average of £10,000 monthly.

Postal orders valued at \$311,643 were paid in 1957 compared with \$433,056 in 1958. The total payments of both postal and money orders was \$727,784 in 1957 and \$859,726 in 1958.

The mercantile community and the public in general are making great use of the air mail facilities and the parcel post service.

TELEPHONES

Expansion of the telephone service continued. Eight public telephones were installed in rural areas and the numbers of subscribers at the end of 1958 was 527.

The trunk lines between Castries and Soufrière were reconstructed and the pole route changed from the interior to the road side.

Chapter 12: Press, Broadcasting, Films and Government Information Services

PRESS

NEWSPAPERS published in the colony are:

Voice of St. Lucia, established in 1885, weekly.

West Indian Crusader, founded in 1934, weekly.

St. Lucia Gazette, issued by the St. Lucia Government every Saturday.

St. Lucia Herald, founded 1957, three times a week.

Workers' Clarion, weekly.

BROADCASTING

There is no broadcasting service in St. Lucia, but one for the Windward Islands, with headquarters in Grenada, has been established with the aid of Colonial Development and Welfare funds.

FILMS

There are five commercial cinemas, where American and British films are shown. The Public Relations and Social Welfare Department gives film shows (news and documentary) throughout the island.

INFORMATION SERVICES

The Public Relations Office explains the policies, actions and achievements of the Government.

Press communiques and administrative reports were issued to the press and the public; and feature articles, booklets and photographs of topical interest supplied by the Central Office of Information, London, were distributed to schools, local authorities, youth organisations, libraries and public places. The press made good use of this material as well as of items from the London Press Service and the British Information Services in Port-of-Spain.

Nine communal receiving sets, purchased with Colonial Development and Welfare funds, were installed in rural areas in 1957.

British and American news shorts were shown by the commercial cinemas, and filmstrips and 16 mm. documentaries were shown in the schools and rural areas. Filmstrips are lent to schools and other interested groups.

The work of the Department is carried out by the Public Relations and Social Welfare Officer (who is also Probation Officer) and a junior clerk.

PART III

Chapter 1: Geography

GEOGRAPHY

ST. LUCIA, a rugged volcanic island of 238 square miles, lies between the French island of Martinique to the north and St. Vincent to the south in the chain of the Lesser Antilles. The most distinctive feature of the island is its scarcity of level land. Almost everywhere extremely steep slopes and narrow valleys are characteristic. The cone-shaped hills and interior ranges generally do not rise much above 1,200 feet except within five miles of the town of Soufrière.

The highest peak, Mt. Gimie (3,145 ft.) is three miles east of Soufrière. More spectacular are the Gros Piton (2,619 ft.) and the Petit Piton (2,461 ft.) forest-clad, volcanic cones rising sheer out of the sea south of Soufrière. A few miles away, in an ancient crater are hot, bubbling, sulphur springs, an indication of the decadent volcanic activity of this district.

The uplands, covered with tropical rain forest or palms (and in some of the lower areas, with low forest and woodland) possess a red clay soil, highly acid and, when cleared, subject to rapid erosion. Numerous short rivers intersect the mountains which generally rise abruptly from the coast.

In places, the mountain streams debouch into fertile alluvial valleys in which is concentrated most of the island's commercial agriculture. In the northern valleys the soils consist of alluvium from the surrounding hills and are added to each year by flooding streams. Typically, they are brown silicious loams of considerable depth which tend to become heavier and more in need of drainage in the broader parts of the valleys. In the south the soils, both in the valleys and on the lower hillsides, tend to be lighter, better drained and less fertile.

The principal towns are located on bays along the coast.

The capital, Castries (population 25,000), is situated on a sheltered, deep-water harbour capable of docking all but the largest ships. Sloops, schooners and motor vessels connect Castries with the Leeward ports and with neighbouring islands. In recent years, the roads connecting Castries with all the main centres of population have been improved and although in many places these roads are narrow, steep and winding, they are paved and motorable.

CLIMATE

The rainfall varies considerably in various parts of the island. At Castries, the average annual rainfall is 90 inches, at the northern and southern extremities it is 60 to 70 inches, while in the interior and windward districts it may range from 100 to 145 inches.

There are well marked wet and dry seasons. The wet season extends from June to December and the dry from February to May. Except in the northern and southern extremities droughts are seldom experienced. The wettest month is July and the driest February.

Temperatures at Castries range from a minimum of 64° F. at night in the cool weather to a maximum shade temperature of 93° F. in the hot season. In the elevated parts of the interior they are lower. The hot season extends from May to October and the cool season from December to March.

The relative humidity is high, ranging from 60 per cent. to 95 per cent. according to the time of day and the season.

The island lies in the track of West Indian hurricanes, but its situation makes it less liable to these storms than the more northerly islands; there has been no hurricane of destructive force in recent years.

Chapter 2: History

So scant is the information on the early history of St. Lucia that the date of discovery is uncertain, for according to the known evidence of Columbus' voyages, he appears to have missed the island. Recent archaeological finds in various parts of the island may yet contribute to our knowledge about the Caribs, the aboriginal inhabitants of the island, who resisted the early attempts at European settlement.

The first known attempt at settlement was made in 1605 when the *Olive Branch*, driven off course when *en route* for Guiana, landed its 67 passengers under the command of Captain Nicholas St. John. On the ship's departure the colonists were attacked by the Caribs and, after several days' severe fighting, the 19 survivors took to their boat. The island was included in the grant made to the Earl of Carlisle by Charles I in July 1627, and a more determined attempt at settlement was made in 1638 when 130 colonists arrived from Bermuda and Major Judge was appointed Governor. Though reinforcements arrived in 1639 and 1640, the colonists were unable to withstand the Carib attackers, and the island was again abandoned in 1641.

Meanwhile the French developed an interest in the island, which they claimed was included in a grant made by Cardinal Richelieu to M. d'Esnambuc in October 1626. In 1643 M. du Parquet, Lieutenant - General of Martinique, appointed M. Rousselan Governor of St. Lucia. M. Rousselan, who married a Carib, maintained his authority till his death in 1654, but his successors had brief and tragic careers. In 1660, however, local treaties were negotiated by the French Governors of St. Christopher and Guadeloupe and the British Governors of Nevis, Antigua and Montserrat on the one hand and between the French and the Caribs on the other; these treaties left the French in possession of St. Lucia and the possibility of peaceful co-existence arose. But in 1663 Francis Lord Willoughby reached Barbados as Governor and as heir to the English Patent and to the problem of finding accommodation for Barbados' surplus population. Barbados not being party to the 1660 treaty, he utilised the services of "Indian" Warner to purchase St. Lucia from the Caribs and the following year, 1664, sent an expedition under Colonel Carew to occupy the island, the French Governor capitulating without a shot being fired. The settlement proved a failure and, on the English withdrawal from the island early in 1666, the French resumed occupation. But the wars of 1673 and 1688, the attacks of the English and the lack of assistance received by the settlement from Martinique forced a French withdrawal in turn.

In 1718 a fresh grant of the island was made by the French regent, the Duke of Orleans, to Marechal D'Estrees, who attempted to settle it with refugees. British objections were raised to this grant and in 1722 George I granted St. Lucia and St. Vincent to the Duke of Montagu. An expedition under Nathaniel Uring was fitted out at great expense to consolidate this grant; but local French opposition proved too strong and the expedition was forced to withdraw early in 1723 on the signature of an agreement that subsequent to the British withdrawal the French would also evacuate and leave the island in its former state till a decision should be reached between the two Crowns.

The next attempt at settlement was made in 1744, when England and France being once again at war, the Marquis de Champigny, Governor of Martinique, established a garrison there under M. de Longueville as military commandant. The Treaty of Aix la Chapelle in 1748 in theory once more restored the *status quo ante*; in practice, however, M. de Longueville remained as civil commandant till his death in 1761, when he was succeeded by his nephew. Meanwhile English and French commissaries disputed at length the respective rights of their nations to the island.

In February 1762, war having once again broken out, the island surrendered to Captain Hervey, one of Lord Rodney's staff; but at the Treaty of Paris in 1763 the island was finally assigned to France. With security of tenure at last, apparently, assured, the French proceeded rapidly with its development and fortification. The fortifications were strengthened by the construction of the massive forts on Morne Fortune and the capital was removed to its present site from Le Petit Carenage in the Castries Harbour on the Vigie peninsular. But the island was not yet due for a period of peaceful progress; with one of the finest small harbours in the Caribbean its military importance was such that it immediately became a target when war broke out, and its improved defences only ensured that subsequent fighting should be more bloody. In December 1778 a strong British expedition surprised and captured the island and French relieving forces under Count d'Estaing were beaten off. Lord Rodney was so impressed by the strategic potentialities of the island as a naval base that he wrote at length in May 1778 to the Earl of Sandwich stressing the importance of retaining the island (his letter is reproduced in full in H. H. Breen's *St. Lucia*), and it was from St. Lucia that he sailed in 1782 to win his great Battle of the Saints over the French under de Grasse. But in 1783 it was agreed in the Treaty of Versailles that the island should once again be restored to France, though the British continued in possession till January 1784.

When war broke out again, an expedition was sent from England to the West Indies under Admiral Jervis. This force surprised the French and captured St. Lucia in April 1794. France at this time was in the throes of its revolution and in February 1794 a decree had been promulgated for the abolition of slavery in the French Antilles. On the surrender of St. Lucia many of the ex-slaves and a number of French soldiers escaped into the woods whence, with the aid of planters of republican sympathies, they harassed the British. In June 1794 Victor Hugues arrived in Guadeloupe as representative of the National Convention, and he so succeeded in organising and inspiring the disaffected that they compelled the depleted British garrison to withdraw in 1795. A strong British force under General Abercrombie reconquered the fortifications after severe fighting in the summer of 1796; but it was not till the end of 1797 that guerilla warfare ceased and the "Armée française dans les bois" surrendered at discretion.

By the Treaty of Amiens in 1802 the island was yet once more returned to France. But with the resumption of hostilities it again became the object of British attack and it was captured in June 1803.

Since then St. Lucia has remained without interruption under British rule, and it was finally ceded to Britain by the Treaty of Paris in 1814.

Till 1838 St. Lucia was administered as a separate administrative unit, its Governor being in direct correspondence with the Colonial Office. In 1838 it was annexed to the Government of the Windward Islands, then comprising Barbados, Grenada, St. Vincent and Tobago with the seat of the government at Barbados. Though from time to time since then the composition and the seat of government of the Windward Islands has changed, St. Lucia has always remained a member.

An important event in St. Lucia's history was the establishment of two United States bases under the 1940 Anglo-American agreement. In 1950 one of these bases—at Beane Field— was “deactivated” and the Government assumed control by agreement. This base was brought back into use in September 1954.

When the French claim to the island was conceded in 1763, their first aim was to develop the colony as an entrepot centre. But estates were also planted with coffee, cocoa and cotton; the first sugar estate was established in 1765 and sugar gradually obtained pre-eminence in the colony's economy. As British annexation came when talk of emancipation was in the air, and it was followed by the Emancipation Act in 1833, economic development was slow; but later in the century, with the advent of steamships, the colony became an important coaling station, an activity which reached its peak during the 1914–18 war; with the change over to oil-burning vessels this trade declined.

On the whole St. Lucia has escaped the hurricanes, earthquakes and other visitations of nature which have caused so much damage in the other West Indian islands. The first recorded instance of a hurricane visiting the island occurred in 1675; it was visited by severe hurricanes in 1780 and 1817—the latter blowing down Government House and burying the Governor and many others in the ruins. The latest major disasters up to the period under report were the fires which destroyed large parts of Castries in 1948 and 1951 and the fire which destroyed three-fifths of the town of Soufrière in 1955.

Chapter 3: Administration

CENTRAL GOVERNMENT

IN March 1956 a constitution incorporating the Ministerial system came into force. The constitution then existing, which was prescribed

by Windward Islands Letters Patent 1951 to 1954, was amended by Windward Islands Letters Patent 1955, which allow a much wider measure of self-government. Under this new constitution the Executive Council is recognised as the instrument of policy, and the Governor or the Administrator normally accepts the Council's advice unless he deems it expedient to do otherwise in the interest of public faith, public order and good government.

The Executive Council consists of:

- (i) the Governor, who normally presides when he is in the colony;
- (ii) three *ex officio* members—the Administrator, who presides in the Governor's absence, the Crown Attorney and the Financial Secretary;
- (iii) if the Executive Council shall so resolve, one member being a person holding a public office in the island, styled the official member;
- (iv) one member, being a nominated member of the Legislative Council of the island, who is styled the nominated member; and
- (v) four members, being elected members of the Legislative Council of the island and chosen by the Legislative Council.

In March 1956 three elected members of the Executive Council were appointed Ministers by the Governor in Council as follows:

The Minister for Trade and Production
The Minister for Communications and Works
The Minister for Social Services.

Each Minister is responsible in the Legislative Council for matters affecting the Government departments which deal with the subjects assigned to him.

Legal and financial matters are dealt with by the Crown Attorney and Financial Secretary; the Administrator retains direct responsibility for other matters.

The law-making body is the Legislative Council, reconstituted in 1951 by the St. Lucia (Legislative Council) Order in Council, 1951, and consisting of the Administrator as President, the Crown Attorney and the Financial Secretary as *ex officio* members, three nominated members and eight elected members. The office of Deputy President was filled by a member elected by the Council from among the nominated and elected members. Elections to the Legislative Council are conducted on the basis of universal suffrage, but an elector must

have a residential qualification of at least 12 months in the colony before the date of his registration as an elector, or be domiciled in the colony.

The members of the Executive and Legislative Councils at the end of 1958 are listed in the Appendix to this Chapter.

A Standing Committee on Finance, of which the Administrator and Financial Secretary are *ex officio* members, was established by Rule 35 of the Legislative Council Rules. All unofficial members of the Legislative Council are members of this committee of which the Administrator is *ex officio* chairman, but only the unofficial members may vote.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Town and Village Councils

There are three Town Councils and seven Village Councils in St. Lucia. With the exception of the Castries Town Council, which is a wholly elected body fast approaching full municipal status, their functions are very restricted largely on account of lack of revenue.

Castries Town Council

This Council, which until 1956 was known as the Castries Town Board, is a wholly elected body of nine members and its history dates back to 1890, with a claim to being one of the oldest of its kind in the British West Indies.

Elections are held annually; one-third of the members retire every year in rotation, but are eligible for re-election. The members select their own chairman annually, but the retiring chairman is eligible for re-election for two consecutive years.

Elections to the Council are held on the basis of universal adult suffrage.

APPENDIX

MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

Chairman

The Governor (when present in the colony)
The Administrator

Official Members

The Crown Attorney
The Financial Secretary
E. S. Gittens (Assistant Administrator)

Elected Members

G. F. L. Charles (Minister for Social Services)
H. B. Collymore (Minister for Communication and Works)
J. G. M. Compton (Minister for Trade and Production)
M. Jn. Baptiste

Nominated Member

M. C. Salles-Miquelle

MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

President

The Administrator

Official Members

The Crown Attorney
The Financial Secretary

Nominated Members

M. C. Salles-Miquelle
M. Grace Augustin
R. H. V. Belizaire

Elected Members

G. F. L. Charles (representing the Third Electoral District)
South Castries.
H. B. Collymore (representing the Second Electoral District)
North Castries.
W. G. Mallet (representing the First Electoral District)
Central Castries.
M. Jn. Baptiste (representing the Fourth Electoral District)
Anse-la-Rayé and Canaries.
L. G. Augier McVane (representing the Fifth Electoral District)
Soufrière.
C. A. M. Compton (representing the Seventh Electoral District)
Vieux-Fort and Laborie.
G. Mason (representing the Sixth Electoral District)
Choiseul.
J. G. M. Compton (representing the Eighth Electoral District)
Dennery and Micoud.

Chapter 4: Weights and Measures

THE standard measures recognised by the laws of St. Lucia are the Imperial yard, the Imperial pound, and Imperial gallon.

Chapter 5: Reading List

- BREEN, H. H. *St. Lucia: Historical, Statistical and Descriptive*. Longmans, Brown Green and Longmans, 1844.
- GARRAWAY, E. G. *St. Lucia Handbook, 1900, 1902 and 1903*. Revised by W. W. Palmer and M. G. Augustin, Castries, 1924.
- URING, N. A. *Relation of the late Intended Settlement of the Islands of St. Lucia and St. Vincent in America in Right of the Duke of Montagu and under His Grace's Direction and Orders, in the Year 1722*. London, 1725.
- WILLYAMS, REV. COOPER. *An Account of the Campaign in the West Indies in the Year 1794*. London, 1796.
- The Memorials of the English and French Commissaries concerning St. Lucia*. London, 1755.
- Essai sur la Colonie de Sainte Lucia. Par un ancien Intendant de Cette Isle*. Neuchatel, 1779.

The following books have sections on St. Lucia:

- ASPINALL, SIR ALGERNON. *The Pocket Guide to the West Indies*. 10th edition. Methuen, 1954.
- BLANSHARD, PAUL. *Democracy and Empire in the Caribbean*. Macmillan, New York, 1947.
- BOND, JAMES. *Birds of the West Indies*. Collins, 1960.
- BURN, W. L. *The British West Indies*. Hutchinson, 1951.
- BURNS, SIR ALAN. *History of the British West Indies*. Allen and Unwin, 1954.
- BUTLER, G. PAUL and BUTLER, ERICA. *Caribbean and Central America*. Toronto, D. Von Nostrand, 1960.
- CUTTERIDGE, J. O. *Geography of the West Indies and Adjacent Islands*. 2nd edition. Nelson, 1948.
- DANIEL, E. W. *West Indian Histories. Book III: Story of the West Indian Colonies*. Nelson, 1942.
- EDWARDS, BRYAN. *History, Civil and Commercial, of the British Colonies in the West Indies*. 2 vols 1793. 5th edition, 6 vols., 1818-19.

- FERMOR, PATRICK LEIGH. *The Travellers' Tree: a journey through the Caribbean Islands*. Murray, 1950.
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- FROUDE, J. A. *The English in the West Indies*. Longmans, 1888.
- HIGHAM, C. S. S. *The Development of the Leeward Islands under the Restoration, 1660-1688*. Cambridge University Press, 1921.
- KNOWLES, W. H. *Trade Union Development and Industrial Relations in the British West Indies*. Berkeley, University of California Press, 1959.
- MANNINGTON, GEORGE. *The West Indies*. Nash and Crayson, 1930.
- MITTELHOLZER, EDGAR. *A Tale of Three Places*. Secker and Warburg, 1957.
- PARES, R. *War and Trade in the West Indies, 1739-1763*. Oxford University Press, 1936.
- RAGATZ, LOWELL J. *The Fall of the Planter Class in the British Caribbean, 1763-1833*. The Century Co., New York.
- REDGRAVE, WILLIAM J. *Islands in the Wind: what to see and how to cut costs in the West Indies*. 4th edition. Greenlawn, New York, Harian Publications, 1961.
- TREVES, SIR FREDERICK. *The Cradle of the Deep*. Murray, 1904. (Reprinted, 1934.)
- WILLIAMSON, J. A. *The Caribbee Islands under the Proprietary Patents*. Oxford University Press, 1926.
- The West Indies and Caribbean Year Book*. Thomas Skinner, Annual.

OFFICIAL PUBLICATIONS

Obtainable, if in print, from the Government Printer, St. Lucia, or through the Crown Agents for Oversea Governments and Administrations, 4 Millbank, London, S.W.1.

Report on the Causes and Circumstances of the Fire in Castries, St. Lucia, on the 19th and 20th June, 1948. By MR. JUSTICE A. V. CRANE.

The Revised Development Sketch Plan, 1946-1956.

Financial Survey, 1950. By A. M. MACLEOD-SMITH.

Memoir of the Constitutional Development of St. Lucia. By K. H. C. ALLEYNE, 1950.

Report on the Financial Situation, September, 1951. By A. M. MACLEOD-SMITH, T. D. TOWERS and G. E. LUCK.

Report and Recommendations of a United Nations Expert on Production of Thermal Energy on the Island of St. Lucia (British West Indies), 1951.

The Agricultural Development of St. Lucia. Report of Team of Experts on visit in March and April, 1951.

Report of the Commission appointed by His Excellency the Governor to enquire into the stoppage of work at the Sugar Factories in St. Lucia in March, 1952, and into the adequacy of the existing Wage-Fixing Machinery in that Colony, 1952.

Report of the Commission on the Stoppage of Work in the Sugar Industry during March and April, 1957.

The Forest and Timber Trees of St. Lucia. By W. G. LANG.

Report on Yields and Costs Production of Coconuts and Bananas in St. Lucia. By J. WRIGHT, C.B.E., B.Sc., A.I.C.T.A.

Quarterly Progress Reports on the Agricultural Development Programme for St. Lucia. September, 1954.

The "St. Lucia Gazette." (Weekly.)

Estimates of Revenue and Expenditure. (Annual.)

Obtainable, if in print, from Her Majesty's Stationery Office:

Report by the Conference on West Indian Federation held in London in April, 1953. Cmd. 8837, 1953.

The Plan for a British Caribbean Federation agreed by the Conference on West Indian Federation held in London in April, 1953. Cmd. 8895, 1953.

West Indian Royal Commission Report. Cmd. 6607, 1945.

West Indian Royal Commission Report on Agriculture, Fisheries, Forestry and Veterinary Matters. By F. L. ENGELDOW. Cmd. 6608, 1945.

Development and Welfare in the West Indies, 1957. (Last Report.) Colonial No. 337, 1958.

Report of the West Indies Committee of the Commission on Higher Education in the Colonies. Cmd. 6654, 1945.

APPENDIX I

Colonial Development and Welfare Schemes initiated or in progress in 1957 and 1958

<i>Scheme No.</i>	<i>Grant \$</i>	<i>Titles</i>
D13D(ad)	960.00	Playing fields at Babonneau, Bellevue, Monchy and Mon Repos.
D13E(h)	480.00	Playing fields at Gros Islet and Anse la Ray.
D734D & E	149,136.00	Executive Architect and Staff.
D1108(425)	1,262.40	Training of three students at Eastern Caribbean Farm Institute.
D1869 & A/C	121,953.60	Insect Control Programme.
D1985	2,923,200.00	Castries Reconstruction.
D1998 & A/D	328,680.00	Completion of the Anse Gallette Quarte Chemin Road.
D2057	54,892.80	Development of Timber Industry.
D2091 & A	105,120.00	Appointment of Development Commissioner.
D2097	8,784.00	Recurrent Administration Expenditure, Eastern Caribbean Farm Institute.
D2154 & A	394,017.60	Development of Main Roads (Castries/Dennery and Castries/Anse la Raye.
D2162 & A	313,440.00	Livestock Improvement.
D2163 & A	296,160.00	Cocoa Propagation.
D2164 & A	355,200.00	Investigation and Demonstration (Agriculture).
D2651(18)	1,440.00	Visit of Handicraft Instructress.
D2651(39)	2,846.40	Visit of Land Settlement Officer.
D2658(79)	3,302.40	Training in Surveying in Trinidad.
D2658(95)	916.80	Training of C. Cadet in Jamaica.
D2658(169)	969.60	Training in Hydrographic Surveying in British Guiana.
D2658(170)	619.20	Training in Public and Business Administration.
D2658(171)	571.20	Training of Laboratory Technician.
D2165 & A	670,080.00	Agricultural Staff.
D2210 & A/B	686,817.00	Feeder Road Programme.
D2524 & A	11,179.20	Training of Teachers at Erdiston College.
D2556 & A	128,836.80	Purchase and re-conditioning of Agriculture Department Tractor.
D2586	34,430.40	Conservator of Forests, Windward Islands.
D2609 & A	95,731.00	Additional Public Works Department Staff.
D2633	5,280.00	Purchase and Erection of Wet Sugar Mill, Monchy.
D2658(38)	1,766.40	Training of two students at Eastern Caribbean Farm Institute.
D2658(56)	1,996.80	Training in Accountancy, Trinidad.
D2658(62)	2,966.40	Training in Air Traffic Control, United Kingdom.
D2658(63)	3,974.40	Training of two students at Eastern Caribbean Farm Institute.
D2658(64)	1,488.00	Training in Co-operatives, Jamaica.
D2717(20)	2,400.00	Machine for Farine Manufacture.
D2739 & A	129,561.60	Public Health Engineering.
D2751 & A	42,081.60	Public Health Nursing Service.
D2752	189,408.00	Equipment and Staff for Feeder Roads.
D2763	278,870.40	Construction of General Post Office and Municipal Buildings.

<i>Scheme No.</i>	<i>Grant \$</i>	<i>Titles</i>
D2764	52,992.00	Construction and Staffing of T.B. Ward.
D2800 & A	105,120.00	Geological Survey, Windward Islands.
D2826	6,816.00	Scholarship for Diploma Course at the Imperial College for Tropical Agriculture.
D2845 & A/B	19,752.00	Recurrent Administrative Cost of Eastern Caribbean Farm Institute.
D2885 & A	24,984.00	Contribution to Police Training School.
D2892	60,000.00	Forestry Development.
D2901 & A	39,403.20	Construction and Equipment of Health Centres.
D2966	288,758.40	Dredging of Castries Harbour.
D2979 & A	245,059.20	Soufriere Reconstruction.
D3058 A & B	125,985.60	Nurses' Quarters at Victoria Hospital.
D2658(174)	1,435.20	Training for Royal Society of Health Certificate at Public Health Training Centre, Jamaica.
D2658(194)	3,595.20	Training of Messrs. Isaac and James at Eastern Caribbean Farm Institute.
D2658(200)	657.60	Training in Meat and Food Inspection.
D3129	624,000.00	Improvements to Vigie Airport.
D3149	7,502.40	Construction of seawall at Choiseul, and re-conditioning of existing road at Four-a-Chaux.
D3231	97,440.00	Reconstruction of existing schools.
D3257	93,000.00	Fisheries Development.
D3279(1)	200.00	Vocational Training, Puerto Rico.
D3279(6)	800.00	Vocational Training, Puerto Rico.
D3285	408,000.00	Agricultural Credit Fund.
D3381	16,502.40	Expanded Theponematoses Campaign.
D3446	595.20	Training in Accountancy in Trinidad.
D3446	595.20	Training in Customs and Excise in Trinidad.
D3446	2,428.80	Training in Public Health in Jamaica.
D3446	960.00	Training at the Mental Hospital in Barbados.
D3448	2,400.00	Construction of a Produce Market at Canaries.
D3468	26,160.00	Handicraft and Cottage Industries.
D3487	2,880.00	Agricultural Rehabilitation Survey.
D3527	86,400.00	Farm School for Delinquents.

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CRIME	NUMBER OF CASES				M
	<i>Total arrested or summoned to Court</i>	<i>Acquitted or discharged</i>	<i>Nolle Prosequi and withdrawn</i>	<i>Awaiting Investigation or Trial</i>	
Against Lawful Authority:					
Against Public Order	988	64	49	87	476
Perjury	1	—	—	—	1
Escape and Rescue	1	—	—	—	1
Other	50	6	3	9	29
Against Public Morality:					
Rape and Indecent Assault	3	1	—	1	1
Unnatural Offences	1	—	—	1	—
Other	—	—	—	—	—
Against the Person:					
Murder and Manslaughter	4	—	—	1	3
Attempted Murder and Suicide	1	—	—	—	1
Grievous harm, wounding, etc.	198	5	7	10	125
Assaults	177	27	11	7	102
Other	11	3	—	1	5
Against Property:					
Thefts and other stealings	397	44	28	31	219
Robbery and Extortion	2	—	—	—	2
Burglary, house and store breaking	42	3	1	12	22
False pretences, cheating, fraud, etc.	51	4	26	10	7
Receiving stolen property	11	4	1	2	2
Arson	6	1	3	—	2
Praedial Larceny	156	24	8	13	91
Other	87	9	9	7	54
Other Offences against the Penal Code:					
Forgery and Coinage	8	—	—	3	5
Other	33	2	3	1	21
TOTAL	2,228	197	149	196	1,169

PROSECUTION

OFFENCES	NUMBER	
	<i>Total</i>	<i>Convicted</i>
Against Traffic Ordinance	599	414
Against Township Ordinance	2	1
Against Liquor Ordinance	15	9
Gambling	16	10
Other Offences	55	41
TOTAL	687	475

CASES OF CRIME.

		Death		In		Otherwise Disposed of			
v. 8-16		M	F	M	16	M	F	Juv. 8-16	
	F				F			M	F
—	—	—	—	7	—	39	33	—	—
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
—	—	—	—	7	—	2	—	—	—
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
—	—	1	—	2	—	—	—	—	—
—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
—	—	—	—	12	—	3	9	—	—
—	—	—	—	7	—	3	1	—	—
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
4	—	—	—	79	—	28	2	9	4
—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—
—	—	—	—	20	—	—	—	—	—
—	—	—	—	5	—	—	1	2	—
—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—
—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
5	—	—	—	19	4	9	—	2	1
1	—	—	—	21	1	3	1	1	—
—	—	—	—	5	—	—	—	—	—
—	—	—	—	—	—	7	2	—	—
10	1	—	—	190	5	94	50	14	5

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ANS BY THE POLICE

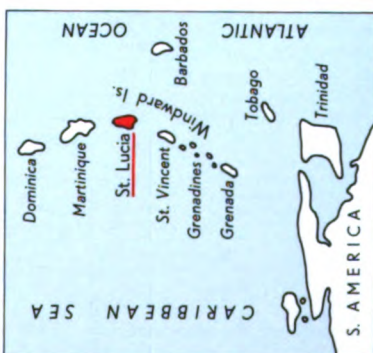
Charged	Pending investigation or Trial	M	16	Warnings			
				M	F	Juv. 8-16	
						M	F
	40	410	—	51	—	—	—
	3	1	—	—	—	—	—
	2	8	—	—	—	—	—
	5	26	—	—	—	—	—
		44	—	—	—	—	—
	50	489	—	51	—	—	—

ST. LUCIA CHANNEL



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PART I

Review of 1959 and 1960

FOLLOWING decisions taken at a constitutional conference held in London in June 1959, a new constitution came into force on 1st January 1960. The post of Governor of the Windward Islands was abolished and the Administrator became Her Majesty's Representative in St. Lucia, exercising such former powers of the Governor as have been retained under the new constitution.

Early in 1960 the island was honoured with a visit by Her Royal Highness the Princess Royal, which enabled St. Lucians to demonstrate the respect and affection in which Her Royal Highness herself is held as well as the loyalty of St. Lucia to the Crown.

The most striking feature of the territory's economic advance was the increase in the production of bananas, which more than doubled in comparison with 1958.

Hurricane "Abby" which struck the island in July 1960 dealt a severe, though temporary, blow to banana production, and caused costly damage to roads and bridges. The United Kingdom Government made a grant of \$194,000 to assist in rehabilitation.

The territory was allocated £900,000 from United Kingdom funds for the development period 1960-65.

As a result of discussions on the United States bases, held in November and December 1960 between the Government of St. Lucia and a delegation of the United States Government, the United States Government agreed to make U.S. \$350,000 available for commitment by 30th June 1961 as economic assistance.

A social survey of the island undertaken with the assistance of the Canadian Government was completed during 1960.

With the assistance of the World Health Organisation and the United Nations Children's Fund, an environmental sanitation programme was started. This is a five-year campaign to provide safe water supplies and improved sanitation in all rural areas of the island.

A Government industrial school for boys was established to help combat juvenile delinquency.

PART II

Chapter 1: Population

ACCORDING to the Eastern Caribbean census taken in April 1960 the population of St. Lucia was then 86,108.

Other vital statistics for 1959 and 1960 are as follows:

	1959	1960
Live births registered: Male	2,030	2,165
Female	2,078	2,075
TOTAL	4,108	4,240
Birth rate per 1,000 of the population*	48.3	49.1
Still births	90	112
Deaths	1,297	1,281
Death rate per 1,000 of the population*	15.2	14.8
Infant deaths	457	454
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births	111.2	107.1
Marriages	422	449

* Mid-year population estimated on the basis of the 1960 census results.

Chapter 2: Occupations, Wages and Labour Organisation

EMPLOYMENT

Local

The absence of any machinery for collecting and compiling employment statistics makes it necessary to estimate the numbers employed in various occupations and the extent of unemployment and under-employment.

Agriculture continued to provide employment for the greatest number of persons and absorbed, during the period under review, some 25,000 persons in gainful employment, the majority in sugar-cane and banana cultivation.

Although sugar cultivation (including processing) employs the greatest number of people in agriculture, it is seasonal. Employment is at its peak during the harvesting season (January-June) when approximately 3,500 were employed in 1959-60. This figure, however, declines to about one-third during the post-harvesting period (July-December) when only a limited number of workers is required to perform task work.

The banana industry, which has steadily developed to be of paramount economic importance to the territory, continued to expand.

The industry received further impetus from the decision of the Dennergy Factory Co. Ltd., to replace sugarcane with bananas as from 1958, as a result of which regular employment has been made available all year round for about 800 people (40 per cent) of the redundant labour force. In addition, approximately 600 persons, the majority women, were employed in connection with the shipping of bananas.

Overseas

It is believed that the general level of unemployment and under-employment fell somewhat with the exodus of workers who, through the efforts of the Government, were placed in contract employment overseas, almost exclusively in agriculture, and by the steady trek of islanders to the United Kingdom in search of employment and better standards of living.

The table below gives figures of emigration from St. Lucia during the period under review:

Year	U.S.A.	Canada	St. Croix	Antigua	Guadeloupe	U.K.
1959	108	16	190	124	60	764
1960	229	16	103	111	—	2,000
	<u>337</u>	<u>32</u>	<u>293</u>	<u>235</u>	<u>60</u>	<u>2,764</u>

Under the terms of a bilateral agreement between the Canadian Government and the Federal Government of The West Indies, the St. Lucia Government was allocated places for 16 domestic workers to go to Canada in each year under review. The young women concerned were required on arrival in Canada to remain in domestic employment for at least one year. Thereafter, they were free to seek Canadian citizenship.

The successful conclusion of negotiations between the United States Virgin Islands Sugar Corporation and the Government resulted in the recruitment of 190 St. Lucian cane-cutters by the company. In 1959 the workers created a very favourable impression by their standard of output and a request was made in 1960 for 103 more.

The Antigua Syndicate Estate Ltd. also employed St. Lucia labour to assist in reaping their sugar crop; and after a lapse of four years 60 cane-cutters were recruited for employment in Guadeloupe during the 1959 harvesting season.

There has been a noticeable increase during recent years in the number of workers recruited for agricultural employment in the United States under the U.S. farm labour programme. All recruitment expenses for these men, including medical expenses, were defrayed by the St. Lucia Government; the transport costs are

shared by the American employers and the workers. In the case of recruitment to St. Croix and Antigua, the Government bore the recruitment expenses and the employer underwrote the costs of the journey.

One of the consequential effects of migration to the United Kingdom was a 20 per cent increase on the 1958 figure of remittances received through the Post Office from the United Kingdom. These provided considerable economic relief to the families of the emigrants.

WAGES AND CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT

In most industries an eight-hour day is worked and wages are determined mainly by collective bargaining. In the case of bakers, commercial employees and shop assistants, the Wages Council Orders of 1956 regulate wages and conditions of employment. In addition, the Holidays with Pay Ordinance, No. 15 of 1957, as amended by the Holidays with Pay (Amendment) Ordinance, No. 21 of 1959, provides among other things for: (i) two weeks' holiday with pay provided that a worker has been in continuous employment with his employer for a year and during that period has worked for at least 200 days; (ii) holiday pay amounting to one-twentieth of the employee's total remuneration over the period concerned provided that the employee has worked for a continuous period of at least 90 days; and (iii) the keeping of records by employers of their employees which may be required and are expected to be presented to the Labour Commissioner or his authorised representative at the time of any inspection.

Some sample wage rates in 1960 are given below:

<i>Agriculture</i>		<i>per day</i>
Men	.	\$1.68
Women	.	1.08
Boys (16-18 years)	.	.90
(14-16 years)	.	.69
Girls (16-18 years)	.	.74
(14-16 years)	.	.59
<i>Banana Reception Sheds*</i>		<i>Weekly and Fortnightly Shipment</i>
Weighbridge Clerks	}	
Supervisors		\$22.00 fortnightly
Selectors		
Boss Women		6.60 weekly
Checkers	.	5.50 for first 8 hours and 99 cents per hour thereafter
Labourers: Men	.	26 cents per hour for first 8 hours and 40 cents per hour thereafter
Women	.	18 cents per hour for first 8 hours and 26 cents per hour thereafter
Banana Carriers (Women)	.	2½ cents per stem

* Part-time employment averaging four days a fortnight.

<i>Commerce</i>	<i>per month</i>
Castries Town: Shop Assistants	\$25.00 (a) 28.00 (b)
All other areas: Shop Assistants	21.25 (a) 23.80 (b)
Office Clerks	35.00 (a)
Cash Boys	15.00 (a)

(a) In business places open for any time between 7 a.m. and 5 p.m.

(b) In business places open for any time between 7 a.m. and 9 p.m.

<i>Port Services</i>	<i>per hour</i>
Dockmen	67 cents
Holdmen, Dockers, Gangway Watchmen	73 „
Winchmen, Guymen, Holdwatcher, Gangwaymen	90 „
Tally Clerks	\$1.16

<i>Sugar Industry Factory Workers</i>	<i>per hour</i>
Apprentices	5.34 cents and 10.9 cents
Semi-skilled workmen	23.07 cents
Skilled workmen	37.07 „

Selected Task Work in Sugar Industry

Reaping Operations:

Cutting canes	86.83 cents per ton
Heading canes	86.3 cents for 1st waggon 90.9 cents for 2nd waggon 95.5 cents for 3rd waggon
Loading canes	37 cents per waggon

Out of Crop:

	<i>per acre</i>
Cutlassing	\$9.25
Cleaning lands and heading out thrash and grass	4.62
Flat forking when filling drains (autumn)	18.24
Flat forking when filling drains (spring)	19.49
Weeding young plant canes	12.29
Forking banks of young plant canes	8.94
Reforming and forking cane beds	32.37

**Hourly Wage Rates paid by Government to its Daily Paid (Casual)
Employees during 1959 and 1960**

Craft	Apprentices Min. Max. Cents		Semi-skilled Min. Max. Cents		Tradesmen Min. Max. Cents		Foremen Min. Max. Cents		
Electricians Welders Turners Mech. Equip. Operators	}	17	18	26	29.4	37	46	58	70.2
B Joiners Mechanics	}	17	18	26	26	31.2	49.2	49	59.4
C Masons Carpenters Plumbers Painters Drillers Smiths	}	17	18	26	26	29.4	36	44.1	54
D Chauffeurs						31.2	38.4		
E Labourers, Male					Normal Rate Min. Max. 20.4 20.4	Semi-skilled Min. Max. 26		Gangers Min. Max. 32 42	
„ Female					18				
F Watchmen				18					
G Timekeepers Storekeepers Checkers	}			34	41				
N.B.—Labourers: Male outside Castries .18 cents Female „ „ .12 cents									

Following negotiations between the St. Lucia Co-operative Union and the Government over revision of the wages and conditions of employment of Government casual (daily-paid) workers, the Colonial Engineer recommended in a report to the Government a 15 per cent increase on the rates of pay set out in the table above back-dated to 1st April 1960. At the end of the period under review, this recommendation had not been implemented.

Mr. C. A. Grossmith, who was appointed salaries revision commissioner to review the existing salary structure and conditions of employment of civil servants in the four Windward Islands, submitted his report to the various Governments in October 1960. The report recommended salary increases ranging from approximately 10 per cent in the top grades to 30 per cent in the lower grades within the present salary structure.

COST OF LIVING

The following figures show the monthly changes in the cost-of-living index for 1959 and 1960, compared with the base year 1939. The index indicates living costs for working class families and covers food, clothing, rent, fuel, light, washing and household equipment and miscellaneous items.

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
1939	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	100	102	104	105
1959	303	305	305	306	306	306	309	313	313	313	313	313
1960	317	321	325	325	326	330	326	327	328	330	330	332

Prices of the principal foodstuffs per pound in 1959 and 1960 were:

	1959 cents	1960 cents
Beef	54	60
Fish (fresh)	35, 40	18, 30
Fish (salt)	44	48
Vegetables (green)	42	44
Sugar	26	15
Flour	12	12
Margarine	23	54

LABOUR DEPARTMENT

The Labour Ordinance enacted in 1938 was replaced by the Labour Ordinance 1960. The principal duties of the Labour Commissioner are:

- (a) to regulate, supervise and review the various forms of employment of labour which exist in the colony;
- (b) to ensure the due enforcement of labour legislation in the colony;
- (c) to bring to the notice of the Minister every matter or thing which is likely to be prejudicial to the welfare of any class of labour, or cause of disagreement between labourers and their employers;
- (d) to make recommendations to the Minister from time to time for promoting the general welfare of labourers.

The Labour Ordinance provides that the Labour Commissioner shall be *ex officio* a Labour Inspector and confers on him powers of entering all places where work is proceeding. In addition, he is the Chief Factory Inspector and exercises all the powers which the Factory Ordinance confers.

The Assistant Labour Commissioner assists the Labour Commissioner generally, compiles the cost-of-living index, assists in disposing of grievances between employers and employees and, in his capacity as a Minimum Wages Inspector and Enforcement Officer under the Wages Council Ordinance, inspects places of employment.

One of the two posts of Labour Inspector which were added to the department's administrative staff in 1958 was filled, and in December 1960 it was announced that an appointment had also been made to the other post. These officers will be primarily responsible for the inspection of work places, employers' records of employment, the recruitment of workers for overseas employment and the investigation and settlement of industrial disputes.

The department was represented on the Price Control and Rent Restriction Boards during the period under review.

Inspection and Complaints

Approximately 120 inspections were carried out during the period under review.

Two hundred and forty minor complaints were investigated and the majority settled during 1959 and 1960. Approximately 60 per cent were lodged by persons in domestic employment.

Employment Exchange

The Labour Department's employment exchange was widely used by Government departments. Seven hundred and forty-five people were registered and 144 were placed in employment. Most of the registered were unskilled or semi-skilled. Private employers do not make much use of the exchange and still recruit labour from those who seek work at their doors.

INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS

Trade Unions

At the end of 1960, there were nine registered trade unions; two—the Farmers and Farm Workers Progressive Union and the Trade Union of Commercial Employees—were registered during the period under review. Not all registered unions are effective, however, and at the end of 1960 only three were recognised by employers for the purpose of collective bargaining.

The St. Lucia Seamen and Waterfront Workers' Union continued to negotiate agreements with shipping agents and Messrs. Geest Industries (W.I.) Ltd. on behalf of waterfront workers. The St. Lucia Workers' Co-operative Union, recognised as the sole bargaining agent for workers engaged in the sugar and banana industries as well as for Government daily-paid employees, was successful in negotiations with Sugar Manufacturers Ltd., the banana industry employers and the Government during the period under review. The Civil Service Association is recognised as the bargaining authority

for the civil service, and in a recent salary dispute was authorised to act on behalf of the Teachers' Union. These three unions are affiliated to regional and international trade union organisations.

Employers have been reluctant to organise themselves for purposes of collective bargaining and trade unions have not always attracted the more educated worker. There has, too, been a dearth of facilities for education in trade unionism, which has tended to retard the movement. But a two-week trade union education seminar held during November 1960 under the direction of Dr. Zin Henry, staff tutor in Industrial Relations at the University College of the West Indies, which was designed for trade union officials and management, was well received. In addition, a trade union official attended a summer course in trade unionism at U.C.W.I. during August 1960.

Trade Disputes

Civil Service Association. The Association was not able to reach a compromise with the Government on the Grossmith recommendations for revision of salaries and called a meeting of civil servants in working time, which amounted to a temporary stoppage. In an endeavour to avert a crisis in the administration of Government, the Association asked for the payment of one month's salary to all salaried employees pending the final outcome of negotiations, and the Government agreed to meet the Association's demand.

Seamen and Waterfront Workers' Union. Up to the end of 1958, the wages and conditions of employment agreed by the St. Lucia Seamen and Waterfront Workers' Union and local shipping agents on behalf of port workers also applied to port workers engaged in handling banana shipments for Geest Industries (W.I.) Ltd.

The expiry of the agreement between the union and the shipping agents in December 1958 coincided with the decision of Geest Industries to recognise the Seamen and Waterfront Workers' Union for the purpose of collective bargaining and to negotiate a separate agreement with this union to cover the conditions of employment of all persons connected with the shipping of bananas including certain categories of port workers. In submitting their proposals to each employer (the shipping agents and Geest Industries) the union included identical wage proposals in respect of port workers.

Negotiations reached a deadlock over the wage question and after all existing voluntary negotiating machinery had been exhausted, all three parties agreed to refer the dispute to arbitration. A three-man tribunal was appointed whose award was as follows:

- (a) an overall increase of 10 per cent on current wage rates of all port workers;

- (b) all workers in the banana industry to share in the 10 per cent overall increase in (a) above with a further recommendation for both parties to negotiate a separate agreement in respect of reception shed workers at a later date;
- (c) banana carriers to be paid 2½ cents per stem;
- (d) Overtime and Sunday and public holiday rates were also decided.

Stoppage of work at Roseau Factory. On 27th March 1960 the S.S. *Specialist* of the Harrison Line arrived to load 900 tons of export sugar at the Roseau depot. After the workers had loaded 55 tons they staged an unofficial strike which was accompanied by a demand for a 50 per cent increase on the negotiated wage rates agreed between Sugar Manufacturers Ltd. and the St. Lucia Co-operative Workers' Union in June 1960.

After unsuccessful discussion between management and the unions the ship left the next day for the Cul-de-Sac sugar export depot, where 1,000 tons of sugar were loaded. The negotiated wage rates were paid to the Cul-de-Sac workers.

LABOUR LEGISLATION

The following labour legislation was enacted:

- The Trades Unions & Trades Disputes Ordinance No. 19 of 1959
- The Holidays with Pay (Amendment) Ordinance No. 21 of 1959
- The Labour Clauses (Public Contracts) Ordinance No. 20 of 1959
- The Labour Ordinance No. 34 of 1959
- Labour Regulation—S.R. & O. No. 15 of 1960
- Labour (Amendment) Ordinance No. 5 of 1960.

SAFETY, HEALTH AND WELFARE

Inspection of work places revealed generally satisfactory standards of safety and health. No cases of industrial disease were reported. The trade unions have introduced health measures in several collective agreements. These include free medical attention for any workman injured during the course of his employment and the provision of proper clothing for working cold storage and dangerous chemical cargoes. Medical expenses incurred as a result of any injury sustained by a workman during the course of his employment are borne by the employer.

The Sugar Labour Welfare Committee approved loans amounting to \$1,418 from the Sugar Welfare Fund to improve the housing of 11 sugar workers. The fund is maintained by a levy of \$2.40 on every ton of export sugar, and loans are repayable at an interest rate of 3 per cent per annum.

Occupations, Wages and Labour Organisation

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The Committee also continued to develop its housing estates which are sited on lands donated by the sugar companies. Approximately 8,500 feet of second-class access roads were laid on two of the estates. In addition, water facilities were extended to each area and community centres established to provide recreational facilities for the tenants. The total number of prefabricated houses erected on each housing estate at the end of 1960 was as follows:

<i>Estate</i>	<i>Number</i>
Cicéron . . .	19
L'Abbyee . . .	8
Richfond (Dennerly) .	8
Roseau . . .	12
TOTAL .	47

INDUSTRIAL TRAINING

On the recommendation of the Education Department based on the results of written examinations, 19 boys were selected from the primary schools and apprenticed to the Public Works Department and private firms. This apprenticeship lasts for five years during which the apprentices receive cash allowances.

Chapter 3: Public Finance and Taxation

THE main heads of revenue and expenditure in 1958, 1959 and 1960 were as follows:

	<i>Revenue</i>		
	1958	1959	1960
	\$	\$	\$
Import Duties	1,507,836	1,650,924	2,158,447
Export Duties	211,776	239,738	236,491
Excise Duty	300,097	385,033	420,194
Other Duties	27,893	26,829	75,832
Licences	49,809	56,661	57,959
Taxes	680,487	706,319	771,423
Harbour Dues	68,648	88,580	94,535
Other Fees of Administration	448,000	450,599	1,489,444
Post Office	124,813	112,379	156,021
Electricity and Telephone	28,777	38,550	38,378
Rents and Interest	36,517	51,591	58,259
Repayment of Loans and Advances	24	30	12
Sale of Crown Lands	16,589	11,881	13,020
TOTAL LOCAL REVENUE	3,501,267	3,819,114	5,570,011
Deferred Maintenance	—	—	—
Grant-in-Aid of Administration	791,501	1,039,952	1,168,000
Grant—Soufriere Reconstruction	69,386	76,713	10,458
Soufriere Reconstruction Loan Fund	132,600	96,000	26,251
Colonial Development and Welfare Schemes	764,318	1,545,822	1,050,962
TOTAL REVENUE	£5,295,072	\$6,577,601	\$7,825,682

	<i>Expenditure</i>		
	1958 \$	1959 \$	1960 \$
Governor	15,659	16,927	—
Legislature	48,059	39,558	72,523
Administration	152,773	157,324	216,465
Accountant General	58,882	59,356	52,771
Agriculture	117,111	116,668	171,308
Audit	30,131	31,807	32,158
Central Housing Authority	12,372	13,041	15,216
Education	635,456	663,917	726,759
Judicial	31,795	39,348	39,184
Labour	19,389	27,503	27,135
Lands and Survey	43,208	34,725	36,494
Customs and Excise	70,393	70,556	64,632
Inland Revenue	44,813	48,249	48,841
Legal	37,765	39,855	37,825
Medical	455,768	553,443	619,894
Miscellaneous	254,942	204,706	272,539
Pensions	178,149	158,737	235,040
Police	378,137	393,096	393,693
Port and Marine	33,581	59,971	49,692
Post Office	76,720	81,247	88,406
Prisons	59,532	67,953	67,435
Public Debt	285,531	419,978	1,135,351
Public Works	86,679	96,651	93,451
Public Works Recurrent	418,919	475,481	566,992
Beane Field	39,313	41,193	37,901
Social Welfare	39,902	50,234	64,411
Subventions	242,560	247,034	277,691
Telephones	85,901	65,543	77,865
Public Works Extraordinary Ordinance	191,883	241,375	207,876
TOTAL LOCAL EXPENDITURE	4,143,323	4,515,472	5,729,548
Deferred Maintenance	97,969	93,208	159,795
Colonial Development and Wel- fare Schemes	1,027,442	1,365,248	1,145,783
Grand-in-Aid Soufriere Recon- struction	67,741	20,646	11,302
Loans for Soufriere Reconstruc- tion	170,653	63,118	44,550
Hurricane "Abby"	—	—	344,196
I.C.A. Assistance	—	—	1,871
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	\$5,509,128	\$6,057,692	\$7,437,045

Statement of Public Debt showing Loans issued and their respective Sinking Funds at 31st December 1960

Description of Debt or Loan	Amount of Original Loan	When incurred and purpose	Amount outstanding	Rate of Interest	Provision for repayment and legal authority	Date payable	Amount of Sinking Fund		Remarks
							Amount of Stock	Value of Stock	
Black Bay Estate Acquisition Loan, Colonial Development and Welfare Scheme D376	\$ 47,136.00	1945. For the purchase of certain lands belonging to the Barbados Settlement Co.	\$ 18,478.28	3½%	—	1965	\$ —	\$ —	Loan free of interest for the first 5 years, then repaid by 15 equated annuities. No statutory authority.
Castries Reconstruction Loan	1,958,400.00	1949. For relending to person for private rebuilding whose houses were destroyed by fire on 19-20 June 1948. For sewerage and housing scheme for the town of Castries.	1,958,400.00	3½%	Ordinance No. 9 of 1949	1965/70	—	—	
Castries Reconstruction Loan	823,880.60	1953. For relending to persons for private rebuilding whose houses were destroyed by fire March 1951.	823,880.00	3½%	Ordinance No. 9 of 1953 and No. 37 of 1954	1965/70	1,243,691.92	997,821.48	
Vide Boutelle Scheme Loan, Colonial Development and Welfare Scheme D1212	21,600.00	1949. For housing Vide Boutelle Area.	14,451.81	3%	—	—	—	—	
Soufriere Hydro-Electric Scheme	280,119.40	1953. For installation of the Soufriere Hydro-Electric.	12,852.29	—	Ordinance No. 19 of 1955	1961/62	—	—	

MAIN HEADS OF TAXATION

	1957	1958	1959	1960
	\$	\$	\$	\$
Import Duties	1,397,760	1,507,836	1,650,924	2,158,442
Export Duties	206,108	211,776	239,738	236,491
Excise Duty	283,496	300,097	385,032	420,194
Income Tax	524,303	630,271	651,703	725,085
Succession Duty	6,411	7,016	2,941	46,138
Rural House Tax	37,882	37,136	38,900	31,951
Stamp Duty	18,952	20,877	23,888	26,694

Import Duties

Ad valorem and specific rates of duty are paid on imports of food, drink and tobacco, raw materials and unmanufactured articles, and articles wholly or mainly manufactured. Specific rates are paid on animals not for food. Bullion and specie are exempted.

The principal imports of food, drink and tobacco are beer and stout, grain (rice, flour, cornmeal and other cereals), preserves, milk, pickled meats, hams and bacon, tea, coffee, tobacco, cigarettes, edible fats, butter and lard. The main imports of raw materials and unmanufactured articles are leather and lumber; those of articles wholly or mainly manufactured are wearing apparel, cotton piece-goods, hardware, machinery, medicines, metals, paints and colours, and manufactures of wood and timber.

The cost of goods for the purpose of ascertaining the amounts of *ad valorem* duty payable is calculated on the price charged for the goods by the vendor and verified by the genuine invoice for such goods. The calculation is based upon all charges on such goods up to the time of their arrival in the colony; if the goods have been procured otherwise than by *bona fide* purchase the *ad valorem* duty is calculated on the actual market value of such goods in the colony at the time the goods are removed from bond.

Articles imported by or for the use of Her Majesty's Naval or Military Forces, the Police Force, the Colonial Government, the Administrator, the municipal authorities, and several other articles listed under the second schedule of Ordinance No. 4 of 1960 for the purpose of encouraging trade and commerce, local agriculture and scientific investigation, are exempted from payment of import duty. A preference of approximately one-third is in many cases allowed on goods of Commonwealth origin. The margin of preference is fixed by agreement.

The Administrator in Council may remit or authorise the refund in whole or in part any of customs duty payable or paid by any person or on any goods not specified in the table of exemptions in the 1960 Ordinance.

Export Duties

Export duties are collected on exports from the colony, of which the main are bananas, charcoal, cocoa, coconuts and copra, firewood, fruit, honey, lime products and sugar.

In order to collect the duties, export prices are fixed by an Export Prices Committee under the chairmanship of the Collector of Customs. The duty on all items except firewood and charcoal is on a sliding scale.

Excise Duty

Excise duty on spirits made in the island, i.e. rum, was charged at \$3.50 per proof gallon.

Excise duty on locally made clear sugar was levied at the rate of \$44.54 per ton in 1960.

Income Tax

The rates of income tax upon the chargeable income of individuals are on a sliding scale from 12 cents on every \$4.80 of the first \$480 to \$3.12 on every \$4.80 above \$24,000. The tax upon the chargeable income of a company is charged at the rate of \$1.60 on every \$4.80. These rates are contained in Sections 24 and 25 respectively of the Income Tax Ordinance, cap. 210 of the Laws of St. Lucia.

INCIDENCE OF TAX

Income Group.	1959		1960	
	Number of Assessments	Tax payable	Number of Assessments	Tax payable
		\$		\$
(a) \$ to 960	1,099	3,116	1,306	3,962
(b) 965 to 1,440	463	5,313	555	6,908
(c) 1,445 to 1,920	332	8,832	352	9,209
(d) 1,925 to 2,400	177	9,028	227	10,599
(e) 2,405 to 2,880	133	11,498	146	12,420
(f) 2,885 to 3,360	81	9,652	108	12,890
(g) 3,365 to 3,840	48	7,473	52	8,353
(h) 3,845 to 4,320	48	11,833	48	10,601
(i) 4,325 to 4,800	32	10,013	32	9,008
(j) 4,805 to 5,280	29	11,173	22	7,452
(k) 5,285 to 6,720	56	30,744	66	39,130
(l) 6,725 to 9,600	42	44,426	54	56,548
(m) 9,605 to 12,000	16	35,023	14	26,342
(n) 12,005 to 14,400	14	36,274	14	40,310
(o) 14,405 to 19,200	8	34,547	10	43,961
(p) 19,205 to 24,000	6	37,225	2	12,539
(q) Over 24,000	3	41,100	2	17,854
Additional Assessments	67	2,709	222	13,335
Supplementary Assessments	103	28,002	102	4,551
TOTAL	2,757	377,981	3,334	345,972
COMPANIES	63	335,768	65	416,977
GRAND TOTAL	2,820	\$713,749	3,399	\$762,949

Succession Duty

This duty is levied under the provisions of the Succession Duty Ordinance.

Where death occurs within the colony, the person accountable for succession duty is required within three months after the death to deliver to the Treasurer a declaration of the value of the estate of the deceased; where death occurs outside the colony, the period is six months. The Accountant General may under certain circumstances extend the period for a further three or six months in both cases and further delays may be granted on application to the Judge.

Succession duty is collected on all estates in excess of \$480, but only half rate is payable in respect of succession passing to the wife, the mother or the lawful son or daughter of the deceased or the illegitimate son or daughter of a deceased mother.

Land and House Tax

The following taxes are levied annually under the provisions of the Land and House Tax Ordinance on all lands and houses situated outside of the limits of any town or village:

(a) Upon land, 24 cents per acre or fractional part of an acre.

(b) Upon houses of which the assessed annual rent is:

\$	\$	\$
Over 25.00 and not over 35.00	.	1.80
" 35.00 " " 50.00	.	2.40
" 50.00 " " 60.00	.	3.60
" 60.00 " " 90.00	.	4.80
" 80.00 " " 100.00	.	6.72
" 100.00	7 per cent of the assessed annual rental	

The assessment is made by the Tax Officer and payment can be enforced in a summary manner before the inferior courts.

Chapter 4: Currency and Banking

CURRENCY

THE currency of the colony is the West Indian dollar which is linked to sterling at the rate of \$4.80 to the £ sterling. Notes and coins issued by the Eastern Caribbean Currency Board are legal tender.

BANKING

There are four banks operating in the colony: Barclays Bank DCO, the Royal Bank of Canada (re-established in 1960), the St. Lucia

Co-operative Bank Ltd., and the Government Savings Bank with branches at Soufriere, Vieux-Fort, Dennery, Gros Islet, Anse La Raye, Micoud and Choiseul.

GOVERNMENT SAVINGS BANK

	1959	1960
Number of Depositors . . .	4,982	5,159
Amount Deposited . . .	\$444,092	\$438,158

Exchange Rates

Commission rates charged by the currency authorities for the issue and redemption of notes were: one-half per cent plus the cost of any telegrams sent in connection with each transaction either by the Caribbean Currency Board or by the Crown Agents.

The following were the commercial banks' rates of exchange for telegraphic transfers:

<i>Selling</i>	<i>Buying</i>
\$4.83 per £1 Sterling	\$4.77
\$173.2* per U.S. \$100	\$171.2*
\$176.4* per Canadian \$100	\$174.0*

* Rates fluctuated during the years, but these figures show the average position.

Chapter 5: Commerce

THE value of total imports, domestic exports and re-exports (excluding bullion and specie) was as follows:

<i>Year</i>	<i>Total Imports</i> \$	<i>Domestic Exports</i> \$	<i>Re-exports</i> \$
1957	8,890,999	4,440,598	162,437
1958	9,034,106	4,335,378*	123,978
1959	10,135,454	6,242,109	133,850
1960 (provisional)	11,995,381	5,211,134	155,453

* Revised figure.

Principal imports and exports by quantity and value are shown in the following tables:

	Unit	1937		1938		1939		1960 (provisional)	
		Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
Beer, Ale and Stout	gal.	28,156	80,059	34,860	100,058	27,901	81,386	45,476	135,456
Boots and shoes	doz. pairs	9,952	295,511	6,908	266,998	7,822	251,290	12,743	375,685
Cement	tons	3,209	185,115	3,203	178,155	3,210	176,244	4,304	223,630
Cotton, piece-goods	sq. yd.	761,875	320,219	856,076	369,526	664,114	257,279	890,475	378,324
Art silk, piece-goods	sq. yd.	526,418	259,061	474,417	230,734	508,904	221,933	973,256	349,251
Flour	lb.	8,656,462	717,190	10,003,169	822,027	9,049,719	782,307	9,682,063	850,915
Machinery: Agricultural	—	—	46,942	—	23,040	—	26,823	—	38,567
Sugar	—	—	131,442	—	310,170	—	42,405	—	—
Manures, chemical	—	2,167	388,315	2,624	350,090	4,913	623,125	5,307	673,056
Milk, condensed, evaporated and powdered	lb.	193,285	71,563	387,337	121,239	482,693	240,072	440,597	136,645
Motor cars	no.	143	323,007	143	269,433	132	325,368	209	428,585
Motor trucks	no.	29	104,715	39	133,363	32	136,395	40	151,481
Motor parts	—	—	58,381	—	51,512	—	74,097	—	62,180
Tyres for motors, tractors, motor cycles, trucks and buses	no.	—	n.a.	—	n.a.	4,427	190,255	4,199	170,832
Paints and colours	lb.	—	n.a.	—	n.a.	216,334	92,613	323,823	132,009
Rice	lb.	1,372,829	142,404	1,646,041	207,896	1,098,098	116,693	1,168,195	130,815
Sacks and bags	doz.	921	3,988	16,029	85,237	27,483	59,987	1,805	5,894
Soap, common	lb.	294,956	65,215	102,750	61,411	274,483	59,548	341,317	74,346
Spirits: Whisky	proof gal.	2,971	34,483	3,462	39,738	4,010	45,344	4,242	48,726
Gin	proof gal.	1,084	8,518	1,674	13,766	2,008	15,508	2,086	17,738
Rum	proof gal.	18,925	87,622	20,368	97,225	24,167	113,081	37,620	241,782
Brandy	proof gal.	1,388	14,483	3,911	31,033	4,077*	32,049	5,882	45,414
Tea	lb.	6,427	8,063	13,126	16,743	9,450	11,296	9,987	14,313

* Liquid gallons in 1959

Principal Exports

	Unit	1937		1938		1939		1960 (provisional)	
		Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
Bananas	bunches	915,651	1,884,893	1,098,174	1,906,075	2,477,101	3,993,384	2,507,925	4,111,969
Cocoa	cwt.	5,732	252,611	3,657	253,761	5,259	357,834	4,635	268,208
Coconuts	no.	87,050	3,980	59,300	2,640	36,400	1,768	31,170	2,426
Coconut Oil	gal.	157,851	351,373	244,689	534,814	211,871	496,879	229,745	554,056
Copra	cwt.	18,316	274,687	15,525	232,874	8,998	144,003	14,705	249,976
Honey	lb.	58,416	7,496	43,769	6,335	54,826	5,605	7,188	986
Molasses	gal.	49,000	5,880	56,840	7,438	40,000	4,800	3,519	689,558
Sugar	tons	2,644	1,421,526	6,270	1,222,482	5,006	996,528	1,839	3,847
Mace	lb.	5,166	22,545	4,291	11,990	7,138	23,583	10,818	13,444
Nutmeg	lb.	19,753	39,852	25,460	41,328	48,402	96,478	—	40,075
Other Fresh Fruits	—	—	—	—	35,198	—	37,887	—	—

<i>Sources</i>	<i>Sources of Imports</i>			
	<i>1957</i>	<i>1958</i>	<i>1959</i>	<i>1960</i> (provisional)
	\$	\$	\$	\$
United Kingdom	3,432,845	3,353,715	3,933,492	4,238,852
Canada	1,215,059	1,349,647	1,502,938	1,665,140
Other Commonwealth Countries	2,229,517	1,956,968	2,157,383	2,519,102
United States of America	791,693	864,531	935,154	1,214,325
Other Foreign Countries	1,221,885	1,464,245	1,606,487	2,357,962

<i>Destinations</i>	<i>Destination of Domestic Exports (excluding ships' stores)</i>			
	<i>1957</i>	<i>1958</i>	<i>1959</i>	<i>1960</i> (provisional)
	\$	\$	\$	\$
United Kingdom	3,565,267	3,277,433	5,453,547	4,265,392
Canada	1,125	8,292	861	1,480
Other Commonwealth Countries	754,956	933,911	732,758	859,277
United States of America	43,162	24,981	507	857
Other Foreign Countries	76,088	90,761	54,436	84,128

Chapter 6: Production

LAND UTILISATION AND TENURE

<i>Classification</i>	<i>Estimated acreage</i>
Total area, including water bodies	152,320
Total area, excluding water bodies	150,350
Permanent arable land	19,000
Permanent meadows and pastures	1,000
Wood and forest land	16,000
Other land (mainly shifting peasant cultivation)	83,000

Land and Water Conservation

The Forest, Soil and Water Conservation Ordinance (No. 6 of 1945 and No. 18 of 1951) provides for controlled exploitation of forest areas.

A forest reserve of approximately 5,251 acres is maintained by the Government, approximately 20 acres of forest are established yearly by the Forest Division of the Agricultural Department, using exotic and indigenous species.

The steepness of most of the better agricultural lands, the high rainfall in most areas, the expansion of agricultural activity to hitherto uncultivated and therefore forested land, and the expansion of banana cultivation (plants which carry a comparatively superficial rooting system), have created a serious soil erosion problem.

The Forest, Soil and Water Conservation Ordinance does not provide for compulsory soil conservation practices on privately owned holdings. The Extension Division of the Department of Agriculture is, however, engaged in encouraging farmers to observe these practices and small subsidies are provided from a Colonial Development and Welfare scheme for assisting with the establishment of soil conservation works. Two conservation demonstration projects have also recently been established with funds obtained through the Agency for International Development of the United States Government.

Land Tenure

Privately owned land is held either under freehold or leasehold tenancy or under a form of multiple tenancy referred to locally as "family land." "Family land" has resulted from the laws of inheritance which provide for title in intestate succession to be held jointly by several members of a family.

Agricultural expansion has been seriously limited by the existence of this form of tenancy and the Government has employed the services of a land tenure expert to survey the situation and to make recommendations as a preliminary step to finding a solution to the problem.

Small land settlement schemes have been undertaken, but no programme for large-scale land settlement is in operation.

Renting systems are usually a variant on the metayage system whereby land is cropped on a share basis. The most popular arrangement is the calculation of rental on the basis of one-third of the gross value of the crop.

AGRICULTURE

Production efficiency in recent years has shown a marked improvement, as the result of improved cultivation methods and the use of fertilizers.

An agricultural expansion programme financed by Colonial Development and Welfare funds continued to provide assistance for agricultural development through:

- (a) the construction of feeder roads;
- (b) the propagation and distribution of improved planting material;
- (c) the provision of extension advisory services;
- (d) the establishment of an Agricultural Credit Fund;
- (e) the improvement of pastures and the introduction of improved breeding stock;

- (f) provision of funds for crop investigational work;
- (g) the purchase of mechanical units for rental to farmers.

Technical and financial assistance was also received from the Government of the United States for projects designed to increase the production of garden crops.

Sugar

Sugar production has declined as sugar-growing areas have been converted to the more lucrative banana crop. Only one sugar factory remained in operation and production declined from 10,873 tons in 1956 to 5,498 tons in 1959-60.

Bananas

A total of 2,646,068 stems valued at \$3,481,589 was exported during 1960, despite serious losses sustained as result of hurricane "Abby."

Cocoa

Cocoa exports were 519,163 lb. valued at \$268,208. The promotion of this crop as part of the Government's policy of encouraging diversification in the face of a growing tendency towards a banana monoculture, has not met with success. The appointment of specialist cocoa field staff during 1960 was expected to assist with this problem.

Animal Husbandry

The livestock population in 1960 was as follows:

Cattle	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	9,000
Sheep	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	7,120
Goats	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	3,810
Pigs	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	13,170
Poultry	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	50,000

The communal pasturage scheme in the southern end of the island has been a success: the total area under improved pasture (Pangola grass) is 150 acres of which 40 acres is irrigated.

A privately-owned beef-raising project in the northern end of the island also started to show signs of success.

Increasing interest was being shown in pork production and the population of the pure-bred Large Black, which has proved ideal for rearing locally, increased substantially. The Government maintained a pig-breeding unit for the production of weanlings for sale.

Agricultural Department Staff

The department consisted of one Agricultural Superintendent, two Agricultural Assistants, two Senior Agricultural Instructors, and one Veterinary Officer.

Supplementary staff provided from Colonial Development and Welfare funds included one Senior Officer, three Agricultural Assistants, twelve Agricultural Instructors, one Assistant Agricultural Superintendent, two Field Assistants, two Cocoa Nurserymen, one Technical Assistant, one Field Assistant (Livestock), one Produce Inspector, one Superintendent of Agricultural Machinery and one Co-operative Societies Officer.

TIMBER INDUSTRY

The quantity of lumber purchased, dressed and sold in 1960 was as follows:

Undressed lumber, purchased	.	.	<i>bd. ft.</i>	\$
Dressed lumber, produced	.	.	119,065	= 20,317
Dressed lumber, sold	.	.	87,794	
			72,729	= 23,490

CO-OPERATIVES

At the end of 1960 there were two active registered co-operative societies, one consumer and one credit. Four unregistered credit and three probationary marketing societies traded.

The education programme was maintained during 1960 and provided training for heads of credit societies and others interested. The training course resulted in the formation of a voluntary Co-operative Education Council.

Chapter 7: Social Services

EDUCATION

IN 1959 there were 51 primary and two secondary schools receiving grants-in-aid from the Government, and one Government primary school. Of the 51 grant-aided primary schools 45 were Roman Catholic, three Anglican and three Methodist.

Work on the extension of existing schools continued in 1959 with the help of Colonial Development and Welfare funds. Three Roman Catholic schools were rebuilt, one at Desruisseaux, Micoud, one at Marchand, Castries, and the third at Saltibus in the Laborie District.

In 1960 nine other schools were reconstructed, seven being Roman Catholic and two Anglican. The Anglican schools were the Anglican Primary, Castries, and the Riviere Doree Combined in the Choiseul district. The Roman Catholic schools were Babonneau Primary, La Croix Maingot Combined and Ciceron Infant in the Castries area, La Ressource Combined in the Dennery district, Canaries Infant, Millet Combined in the Anse-la-Raye district, and Banse-la-Grace in the Laborie district. These new schools together provided accommodation for 4,020 pupils.

Colonial Development and Welfare funds bore 75 per cent of the total cost of building the new schools and the Church authorities were expected to provide the remaining 25 per cent. The Anglican authorities were unable to meet their share and in the case of the Castries Anglican Primary and the Riviere Doree Anglican Combined School, the amount was met from St. Lucia Government funds.

Primary

There were 19,412 children on the roll in these schools in 1959 compared with 19,918 in 1960.

In 1959, \$662,113 was spent from colony funds on primary education (\$635,455 in 1958). The sum in both cases excluded the expenses of the Education Department. In 1959 there were 506 primary school teachers of whom 146 were certificated (of that number 33 were trained), 111 were uncertificated and 249 were pupil teachers.

During September 1959 and 1960 a team of six supervising teachers attached to the Education Department was responsible for the training of uncertificated and pupil teachers. They conducted the usual week-end classes during each term and vacation courses. In addition they visited schools to observe the practical teaching of uncertificated and pupil teachers. Vacation courses were also held for head teachers and certificated assistants.

In September 1959 there were two teachers at Erdiston Training College, Barbados, taking a two-year course. In September 1960 six more teachers began a special course there. In addition in 1959 and in 1960 one teacher was awarded a British Council scholarship for a one-year course in the teaching of English as a second language at Moray House, Edinburgh, Scotland, three head teachers were awarded Commonwealth Training Scholarships to the United Kingdom for one year, and a fourth was awarded a scholarship to the University College of the West Indies to do a one-year course leading to the professional Certificate of Education.

Secondary

St. Mary's College, a Roman Catholic boys' secondary school, had an enrolment of 379 during 1959 and 380 in 1960. It received a grant-in-aid of \$40,896 in 1959 and \$39,465 in 1960. St. Joseph's Convent, a Roman Catholic girls' secondary school, had an enrolment of 485 in 1959 and 540 in 1960. It received a grant-in-aid of \$34,050 in 1959 and \$33,259 in 1960.

The headmaster and senior members of the staff of the College are Brothers of the Presentation Order. Six of the senior masters are university graduates. The headmistress and the majority of the staff at the Convent are Sisters of St. Joseph of Cluny. Three of the Sisters and one of the lay staff are graduates.

Both secondary schools present students annually for the Cambridge School Certificate and Higher School Certificate. At St. Mary's College general science is taken regularly as a subject in the Cambridge Examinations.

Visual Aids and Music

The Extra-Mural Department of the University College of the West Indies held lectures during 1959 and 1960, many being illustrated by film strips and slides.

During 1959 and 1960, the St. Lucia police bandmaster visited the primary schools to advise teachers and report on the standard of singing. At the teachers' vacation courses he gave instruction on the rudiments of music.

In the secondary school for girls, a number of students took the instrumental and singing examinations of Trinity College of Music.

Adult Education

During 1959 the Extra-Mural Department of the University College of the West Indies was still the main body responsible for the organisation of adult classes in the island. Courses conducted in Castries included arithmetic, art, biology, drama, English language, English literature, French history, public speaking, and world affairs.

In August 1960 an Adult Education Officer was appointed whose duties include:

- (i) the provision of facilities for the education of persons who are over primary school age but who are not in full-time attendance at an educational institution;

- (ii) the organisation of classes and courses suited to the ability and interest of adults;
- (iii) the co-ordination of existing services providing adult education in the community.

PUBLIC HEALTH

The medical services are administered by a Senior Medical Officer, who is responsible to the Minister of Health for the general working of the department and to the Administrator for matters affecting personnel. The island is divided into seven districts each in the charge of a District Medical Officer. Shortage of medical staff in the past two years has been very acute and it has seldom been possible to provide a medical officer for each medical district.

HOSPITALS AND INSTITUTIONS

The Victoria Hospital, with a total of 170 beds, is in Castries, the capital, and deals with all the major surgery and with most of the serious medical cases from all over the island. There is a comparatively large obstetrics department; nearly one-third of all births take place in this hospital. A 50-bed tuberculosis block was completed at the end of 1958 as an annexe.

The following hospitals and institutions in the out-districts are in charge of District Medical Officers:

	<i>Beds</i>
Soufriere Hospital	20
Vieux Fort Hospital	30
Dennerly Hospital	14
Mental Hospital	140
Home for the Aged and Infirm	120

Auxiliary Services

Auxiliary services are as follows:

The Sanitation Department is under a Senior Public Health Inspector with a staff of nine Public Health Inspectors, nearly all of whom possess the certificate of the Royal Society of Health.

The Public Health Engineering Unit, run with Colonial Development and Welfare funds, is in the charge of an engineering assistant. In recent years its work has been concerned largely with environmental sanitation.

The Malaria Eradication Unit is under a supervisor. No case of malaria has occurred since June 1959, when three cases, the only ones in that year, were discovered. The work of this unit is now confined to surveillance.

The Dental Service is run by one dental surgeon. Clinics are held daily in Castries and monthly or quarterly in the out-districts. The dental surgeon also inspects and treats school-children.

The Public Health Nursing Service is under a Lady Health Visitor who possesses the certificate of Tutor to Health Visitors. The service is responsible for ante-natal, child health, tuberculosis and venereal disease clinics throughout the island.

The Environmental Sanitation Department's function is to provide safe drinking water and proper sewage disposal systems in all rural areas of the island. It is run with assistance from WHO and UNICEF and with Colonial Development and Welfare and local Government funds.

Health Centres, each with a resident District Nurse, have been set up in populous areas all over the island. At these centres out-patient medical clinics are held by the District Medical Officer, and ante-natal, child health, tuberculosis and venereal disease clinics by the District Nurse.

Major Diseases

The commonest causes of morbidity in children are intestinal infections, and in particular helminthic infections and gastro-enteritis. Malaria, at one time a widespread scourge, has been eradicated; in 1959 one death was attributed to malaria, while in 1960 no cases or deaths occurred from this cause.

The incidence of venereal disease is high.

Typhoid fever is endemic and from time to time occurs in localised epidemic form.

HOUSING AND TOWN PLANNING

Castries Regional Scheme "B." This scheme covers the area east of Chaussee Road destroyed in the Castries fire of March 1951. As the area is low-lying and below the level of the surrounding street, building construction was prohibited until the owners could comply with the building regulations. Individually, the owners of the lots were not able to do so, and the Government finally decided to expropriate the area. Negotiations were being conducted to establish the price of land in the area.

Soufriere Regional Scheme. The 64 families, homeless as the result of the fire in June 1955, were still living in temporary shelters, and negotiations were proceeding about their rehousing. The 20 houses built for hire-purchase have all been sold.

SOCIAL WELFARE

Social welfare work is undertaken both by official and voluntary organisations.

The Public Relations and Social Welfare Officer advises the Government on all Welfare matters. He also administers public assistance and probation services and acts as liaison officer between Government and voluntary organisations. The staff of the department consisted of the Public Relations and Social Welfare Officer, a Probation Officer, a Relieving Officer, two clerks and a messenger.

Juvenile Delinquency and Probation Services

In 1959 a full-time Probation Officer was appointed. A school for juvenile offenders, the Government Industrial School for Boys, built at Massade, Gros Islet, from Colonial Development and Welfare funds at a cost of \$64,340, was officially opened by H.R.H. the Princess Royal on 20th February 1960. From April 1960 the expenses have been met from colony funds.

There are 18 acres of land adjoining the school of which 15 are suitable for light agriculture. The staff consist of a headmaster, an assistant master and a matron. The school curriculum provides formal education as well as instruction in agriculture and crafts.

The Probation of Offenders Ordinance No. 17 of 1961 provides for the functions of the Probation Officer. Probation is used by the Courts mainly for juveniles and young persons. In 1959 21 males and one female were placed on probation, compared with 13 males and four females in 1960.

After-Care

After-care of discharged prisoners and rehabilitation of those discharged from the Government Industrial School for Boys are also the responsibility of the Public Relations and Social Welfare Department. Discharged prisoners and the boys from the Government Industrial School are given a small gratuity and tools according to their aptitudes.

Youth Organisations

There are several youth clubs in the colony and these are encouraged and assisted by the Public Relations and Social Welfare Department. Most clubs suffer from lack of leadership, but primary school teachers have assisted in filling the gap.



*Her Royal Highness the Princess Royal during her visit to St. Lucia
in February 1960*



Part of the Rduit Castries. This stretch of coast is scheduled for development as a tourist resort



A new primary school in Castries



A new type of fishing boat under construction. The old type of fishing canoe is partly seen in foreground



Sugar-cane giving way to bananas which have become the island's most important crop



A general view of Castries and its harbour

Voluntary Organisations

The St. Vincent de Paul Society, the Red Cross, Ladies of Charity and Women's Association continued their good work. The St. Vincent de Paul Society has a home for the poor accommodating 22 males, and recently a new building to house 100 females has been built. Both these homes cater for all denominations.

Plans are on the way for the formation of a Council of Voluntary Social Services. It is hoped that, when formed, it will co-ordinate the activities of voluntary and youth organisations, prevent overlapping of efforts, advise Government on the need for new services, form an authoritative body which would inform the public about social needs, make the most economical use of public funds and voluntary contributions and ensure joint action in a common programme of social development.

Poor Relief

The Public Relations and Social Welfare Department is responsible for the relief of the aged, the infirm and children under the age of 14 years who are destitute. The Police n.c.o. in charge of each district acts as sub-relieving officer and investigates each case before assistance is given. The number of cases who received outdoor relief and the amount spent in 1959 and 1960 were as follows:

<i>Year</i>	<i>Number of persons</i>	<i>Amount \$</i>
1959	1,030	31,360
1960	1,050	34,300

Assistance is given either as outdoor relief or by maintenance in the Home for the Aged and Infirm which is managed by the Medical Department. An average of 100 inmates was maintained at the Home at a cost of \$28,280 in 1960,

There was no old-age pension scheme, but a number of Friendly Societies provided their members with sick, burial and death benefits.

Training

In 1960 the Probation Officer had three months' training in Trinidad, attached to the Trinidad and Tobago Probation Service.

The Public Relations and Social Welfare Officer took a training course lasting over a year at the University College of Swansea, Wales, during 1960-61. He studied social science and administration and obtained a diploma.

Chapter 8: Legislation

THIRTY-THREE Ordinances and 41 Statutory Rules and Orders were passed during 1959 and 28 Ordinances and 39 Statutory Rules and Orders during 1960.

Of the Ordinances passed in 1959, 17 were amending Ordinances. The most important were:

The Banana (Marking) Ordinance, providing for the allocation of identification marks to registered banana growers and imposing a penalty for the unauthorised use of an identification mark.

The Children of Government Officers (Scholarships) Ordinance, providing that children of Government officers who hold scholarships in secondary schools in St. Lucia should continue to hold them at secondary schools in any other territory of the British West Indies to which such officers may have been transferred.

The Currency Ordinance, amending and consolidating the law relating to currency and implementing an agreement to provide for a uniform currency in the Eastern Group of the British Caribbean.

The Trade Union and Trade Dispute Ordinance, repealing and replacing the Trade Union and Trades Disputes Ordinance, and bringing the law on the subject up to date.

The Labour Clauses (Public Contracts) Ordinance, carrying out the Convention relating to Labour Clauses in Public Contracts.

The Rent Restriction Ordinance, restricting increases of rent of dwelling houses and providing for the right to recover possession of such houses.

The Windward Islands Banana Insurance Ordinance, providing for the insurance of bananas under the Banana Insurance Scheme for the territories of the Windward Islands.

The Hotel Aids Ordinance, which is intended to encourage the extension of the hotel industry.

The Protection of Wages Ordinance, protecting the wages of workers and repealing the Daily Labourer's Wages Payment Ordinance.

The Labour Ordinance, repealing and replacing the Labour Ordinance, 1938.

Of the Ordinances passed in 1960, 10 were amending Ordinances. The most important were:

The Customs Duties Ordinance, repealing the Customs Duties Ordinance, and its amendments, and setting out new schedules in conformity with the Customs Union proposals.

The Cable and Wireless (West Indies) Limited Ordinance, giving Cable and Wireless (West Indies) Limited legal authority to operate its service in St. Lucia and to do all things to facilitate the operation.

The Druggists and Poisons Ordinance, repealing those sections in the Medical Registration Ordinance which deal with the registration of druggists and the sale of drugs and poisons.

The Probation Ordinance, repealing the Probation of Offenders Ordinance, bringing the law up to date in respect of the probation of juvenile offenders.

The Fire Brigade Ordinance, repealing the Fire Brigade Ordinance and bringing the law on the subject up to date.

The Antibiotics Ordinance, regulating the importation, distribution, sale and use of antibiotics.

The Legislative Council (Contracts with Government) (Disqualification) Ordinance, providing for the disqualification of persons from membership of the Legislative Council on account of interest in Government contracts.

The Administrator (Substitution of Title) Ordinance, substituting the title of Administrator for that of Governor in all legislation in force in St. Lucia.

Chapter 9: Justice, Police and Prisons

JUSTICE

It is convenient to begin a review of the law of St. Lucia from the capitulation of the island to General Grinfield on 22nd June 1803, and the assurance to the inhabitants by proclamation that they should continue in the enjoyment of their rights in accordance with the laws which existed immediately prior to the cession. The Proclamation of 1803, therefore, continued the law and ordinances of the French monarchy as the law of the colony, at least in civil matters.

In 1876, owing to uncertainty concerning the law in civil matters, the Civil Code Ordinance was passed. The Civil Code was published in 1879 and the Code of Civil Procedure in 1881, both based on the ancient law of the island with such amendments as the circumstances of the time required.

Broadly speaking, the law relating to commercial matters is based on principles of English law. The Code was compiled in 1916; it follows faithfully the lines of existing English statutes. In that year also, statutes of St. Lucia were revised and collected into two volumes

entitled *Revised Ordinances of St. Lucia, 1916*. Subordinate legislation was collected in a separate volume entitled *Revised Rules and Orders, 1916*. It was not till 1920 that the *Criminal Code* (Law and Procedure) made its appearance. This, too, is based upon English Common Law and statutes.

Since 1916, new laws, whether by way of amendments to the codes or otherwise, have been published in annual volumes of the Ordinances and Statutory Rules and Orders of St. Lucia. A new edition of the laws, up to June 1957, was published in 1959.

For the administration of justice, the island has been divided into three Judicial Districts. The District Courts of Judicature are presided over by Magistrates who exercise a summary jurisdiction in civil and criminal matters.

A Supreme Court and a Court of Appeal for the Windward and Leeward Islands were established by Order in Council in 1939. Fresh provision regarding those Courts was made by an Order in Council in 1959, which also provided for the establishment of a Judicial and Legal Service Commission composed of the Chief Justice of the Joint Supreme Court of the Leeward and Windward Islands, a Federal Justice, a Judge or ex-Judge of a Superior Court of any part of Her Majesty's Dominions, and the Chairman of two of the advisory Public Service Commissions in the territories concerned.

Under the Windward Islands and Leeward Islands (Courts) Order-in-Council, 1959, which came into operation on 1st January 1960 appeals from Magistrates' decisions no longer lie to the Supreme Court but to the Court of Appeal.

Judges* of the Supreme Court (other than the Chief Justice) are appointed by the Governor-General of the West Indies on the recommendation of the Commission. The Chief Justice* is appointed by the Governor-General after consultation with the Federal Chief Justice. Judges are removed from office only if the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council advises removal on grounds of inability or misbehaviour. The Judicial and Legal Service Commission advises the Administrators on the appointment, etc., of magistrates, registrars and law officers. The expenses of the Joint Courts (including the emoluments of Judges) and the Commission are borne by the eight territories in proportions specified in the Courts Order in Council of 1959 and the sums required to meet these expenses are charged on the revenue of each territory by the Order in Council.

*After the dissolution of the Federation of The West Indies on 1st June 1962, the provisions in the Windward Islands and Leeward Islands (Courts) Order in Council, 1959, relating to the appointment of judges were amended by the West Indies (Dissolution and Interim Commissioner) Order in Council, 1962. Appointments are now made by a Secretary of State.

The Federal Supreme Court† constituted by Article 73 of the Constitution of The West Indies also has certain original and appellate jurisdiction in respect of these territories.

In the Supreme Court in 1959, there were 59 criminal cases, six appeals and 101 civil cases. In 1960 there were 27 criminal cases, three appeals and 89 civil cases.

Particulars of the criminal cases taken to court are shown in Appendices II and IV.

†This court was dissolved on 1st June, 1962. Its jurisdiction in respect of these territories was taken over by the British Caribbean Court of Appeal.

POLICE

The Force is charged with the maintenance of law and order throughout the island. It is armed and trained in semi-military duties and is liable to actual military service for the defence of the colony against external aggression.

There were no civil disturbances during the period reviewed.

Auxiliaries

There is a Police Reserve of one officer and 49 other ranks.

Authority exists for the enrolment of Rural Constables whose duties are to assist the regular police in such duties as making arrests, laying information and escorting. They receive no training, but payment is given when duties are performed. The establishment at the end of 1959 and 1960 was 200.

Establishment and Organisation

The authorised establishment of the Force in 1959 and 1960 was:

1 Superintendent
1 Deputy Superintendent
2 Assistant Superintendents
3 Inspectors
1 Bandmaster
5 Station Sergeants
15 Sergeants
30 Corporals
179 Constables

The Force is organised into three Divisions, sub-divided into 11 police stations. Police are responsible for the issue of motor vehicle licences, for firearms registration and licensing, for the inspection of motor vehicles, and for immigration and the fire service. The Superintendent of Police is Chief Immigration Officer and is in charge of the fire service. He is also Inspector of Weights and Measures.

Training

Training of all recruits is carried out at the Regional Police Training Centre, Barbados.

Band

The band, in addition to being in attendance at all official parades, provides concerts regularly throughout the island and is most popular. In addition to his normal duties the bandmaster holds music classes at schools.

Traffic and Licensing

<i>Traffic Cases and Accidents</i>					1959	1960
Cases	.	.	.	.	566	601
Warnings	.	.	.	.	26	17
Accidents	.	.	.	.	231	236

There were two fatal accidents in 1959 and four in 1960. One hundred and twenty-five persons were injured in 1959 and 142 in 1960.

<i>Motor Vehicles, Licences and Permits</i>					1959	1960
Motor Vehicles	.	.	.	.	1,095	1,157
Drivers' Licences	.	.	.	.	1,860	2,036
Learners' Permits	.	.	.	.	802	973
Driving Tests	.	.	.	.	577	668
Bicycles	.	.	.	.	784	808

Passports and Permits

The following travel documents were issued:

					1959	1960
Passports	.	.	.	.	2,390	2,818
Police Permits	.	.	.	.	739	663
Emergency Travel Documents	.	.	.	.	5	11
Seamen's Certificate of Nationality and Identity	.	.	.	.	67	26
Certificates of Identity	.	.	.	.	18	35
Affidavits	.	.	.	.	—	1

Crime

The total number of cases reported to the Police during 1959 was 2,681 and in 1960, 2,537.

Of the total for the years under review, 2,714 were true cases; 391 indictable and 2,323 non-indictable. Statistics of crime reported to the Police are given at Appendices II and IV.

PRISONS

The prison staff during 1960 consisted of one Superintendent, one Chief Officer, one Principal Officer, 28 officers, one matron and three assistant matrons.

The daily average number of prisoners in 1960 was 75.11 males and 8.26 females.

Literate prisoners whose relatives can afford it are being encouraged to take oversea study courses in accountancy, building, etc. One successfully passed an examination in accountancy.

The standard of work in cabinet-making continued to improve. Wood sawing has been included among the activities of male offenders.

With the approval of the Executive Council prisoners may now go fishing with the result that fresh fish, absent from the diet for over a decade, is now regularly served.

The cost of maintaining and operating the prisons was as follows:

<i>Year</i>	<i>Expenditure</i>	<i>Revenue</i>
	\$	\$
1957	55,284	6,578
1958	59,532	6,281
1959	67,953	8,323
1960	67,435	5,828

Chapter 10: Public Utilities and Public Works

WATER SUPPLY

THE Castries waterworks draws its supply from surface water originating in a watershed situated some five miles from the town of Castries. At its inception a large forest reserve was created at the upper level of the watershed, and the supply was wholly a gravity one, but within recent years the necessity for extension has resulted in the inclusion in the system of a pumped supply not originating wholly in the water reserve.

At the headworks of the gravity supply, low diversion weirs across the streams at their upper reaches direct the water to screening chambers and thence to the purification plant through asbestos-cement and bitumen-lined steel pipes. In the case of the pumped supply, stream intakes, constructed across the streams at lower elevations, form a sump from which the water is pumped through similar pipes to the purification plant.

The capacity of the waterworks system is 800,000 gallons per day. There are five electrically-operated centrifugal well pumps, two oil engine-driven pumps being retained for emergencies. The pumps operate against overall heads of 350 and 440 ft. from two pumping stations.

At the purification plant, raw matter is subjected to the following treatment: sedimentation with the help of a coagulant, filtration through rapid gravity filters, sterilisation by the ammonia-chlorine process and restoration of the PH value by the use of hydrated lime.

Two service reservoirs provide storage for 800,000 gallons. Owing to the considerable difference of elevation between the central area of the town and the suburban area, the distribution mains operate under two different heads. Mains with hydrants for supplying shipping with water at rates up to about 10,000 gallons per hour are situated along the wharf. House connections are made at the householders' expense. A liberal number of street stand-pipes provide water for those homes which do not have a private service.

Every dwelling within the Castries water area pays a water rate, as do those outside that area which have a supply.

For fire protection, a salt-water main has been installed which supplements the fresh water mains. Its capacity is 1,200 gallons per minute, but it is confined to that part of the town zoned mainly for commerce, industry and offices.

The supply is controlled by the Castries Town Council.

ELECTRICITY

The Castries station has six diesels ranging from 72 kW. to 300 kW., totalling 878 kW. installed capacity.

The numbers of consumers of the different services were as follows

	1959	1960
Domestic	1,081	2,121
Commercial	211	321
Industrial	11	32

In Soufriere and Vieux-Fort there are small undertakings, the first supplied by hydro and diesel generators and the latter by former U.S. Base 60-cycle diesels. Together they supply approximately 620 customers. There are also two or three village undertakings providing only an evening service.

PUBLIC WORKS

Works completed were:

Extension to Vigie Airport
Dennerly Court House and Sub-Collector's Office
Industrial School for Boys
Extension of Vieux-Fort Hospital
Extension of Micoud Water Supply
Electricity supply to Micoud and Laborie
Water supply to Choiseul.

Chapter 11: Communications

SHIPPING

Main Ports and Anchorages

Castries

Castries Harbour is situated on the west coast of the island in latitude 14° 01' N., longitude 61° W., and is entered between Pointe D'Estross and Tapon Rock about three-and-a-half cables southward with the leading marks in line, bearing 121° true. There are depths from four to six fathoms throughout this channel which leads to the wharves.

The harbour can accommodate all but the largest vessels and is considered one of the most sheltered anchorages in the West Indies. There is unlimited anchorage in all but abnormal weather outside the harbour entrance in between ten and fifteen fathoms of water. Vessels of 25 ft. draught and under may anchor as convenient in the stream at the discretion of the Harbour Master. There are two transit sheds of a total area of 11,280 sq. ft., and an estimated capacity of 5,784 tons.

Wharves. (1) Northern Wharf, 640 ft. in length with an overall depth of 27 ft. alongside.

(2) Western Wharf, 500 ft. in length with an overall depth of 4 fathoms alongside.

(3) The Reclamation Cable Depot Wharf, length 300 ft., depth 4 fathoms at the western end to 3½ fathoms. This wharf is situated alongside Messrs. Cable & Wireless Ltd., Cable Depot and is reserved for the use of cable ships when in port.

For further details see *West Indies Pilot*, Vol. II, page 283f.

Vieux-Fort Anchorage

Vieux-Fort, situated at the south-eastern extremity of the island in latitude 13° 43' N., longitude 60° 57' W., provides a safe anchorage except when the wind is in a southerly direction. The bay, which was used during the last war for delivering supplies to the American Army Base, has a pier 1,150 ft. long, and is now used by the four chartered refrigerated ships loading bananas for the United Kingdom every seven days, the Three Bays Line ships, and barges. At the head of the pier there is a depth of 31 ft. alongside and vessels with a draught of 18 ft. and 500 ft. in length can berth on either side of the outer end.

Facilities also exist for the supply of water. Anchorage is provided in eight fathoms of water south-west of the pier.

External Services

T. & J. Harrison Line: Average once a month to Europe via islands with cargo only.

Chartered refrigerator ships for banana trade to United Kingdom via Dominica every week.

Compagnie Generale Transatlantique: Average once a month to Europe via islands with passengers and cargo.

Royal Netherlands Steamships Co.: Average once a month with transshipment cargo from Trinidad to islands.

Saguenay Lines: Twice monthly from Canada to the islands with cargo and passengers.

Booth Line: Fortnightly with cargo and passengers from U.S.A. to all the islands.

Federal Steam Ships: Average twice monthly from Jamaica to Trinidad via the islands with cargo and passengers.

Fratelli Grimaldi: Monthly for passengers to Europe.

Linea C.: Average once a month with passengers only to Europe via the islands.

Local Shipping

M.V. *Lady Joy*: Twice a month to St. Vincent, Barbados, Grenada and occasionally to Curaçao and Aruba with passengers.

M.V. *Michael David*: Average four times a month to Barbados, St. Vincent, Grenada, Trinidad.

Auxiliary schooner *Grenville Lass*: Average weekly to Martinique, leaving Castries on Tuesday and returning on Friday.

Other sailing vessels, auxiliary schooners and sloops: To the islands, mainly Barbados, Trinidad, St. Vincent, Grenada, at an average of 12 times a month.

Statistics of Ships Using Ports

1959

Description	Number	Net Tonnage	Gross Tonnage
Mine Sweepers	1	380	380
Steamers	26	121,974	283,803
Motor Ships	249	425,657	865,518
Motor Vessels	214	16,567	115,597
Cable Ships	13	7,847	23,642
Tankers	13	15,716	28,994
Auxiliary Schooners	177	7,197	91,214
Auxiliary Sloops	32	1,032	1,256
Yachts	392	10,865	15,096
Sailing Vessels	100	2,627	3,370
Fishing Crafts	15	88	208
Sea Plane	1	1	1
Motor Launch	1	3	3
TOTAL	1,234	609,954	1,438,082

1960

Description	Number	Net Tonnage	Gross Tonnage
H.M.S.	5	8,100	8,100
H.M. Yacht	1	3,037	5,167
Coast Guard	1	450	450
Research Ships	2	1,850	4,532
Steamers	23	119,751	194,106
Motor Ships	258	512,455	751,205
Motor Vessels	196	16,419	26,747
Cable Ships	6	3,174	11,965
Tankers	15	11,479	20,509
Yachts	381	10,377	14,062
Tugs	3	1,660	1,660
Auxiliary Schooners	224	9,796	12,296
Auxiliary Sloops	43	1,120	1,353
Sailing Vessels	42	1,472	1,668
Launches	4	103	121
Fishing Crafts	38	445	555
TOTAL	1,262	701,688	1,054,496

In 1959 there were 9,546 inward passengers and 10,691 outward, and 9,999 inward and 11,995 outward in 1960. Inward freight totalled 33,645 tons and outward 38,816 tons in 1959, and 43,131 tons and 32,312 tons in 1960.

ROADS

The mileage of different types of roads was as follows:

	Miles
Main Roads	120.00
Second Class Roads	109.00
Unclassified Roads	171.50
	400.50

Since 1956, 22.08 miles of road have been constructed, as follows:

	<i>Miles</i>
Main Roads	8.08
Second Class Roads	13.10
Unclassified Roads	.90
	22.08

These are link and feeder roads which have increased access to agricultural lands and facilities for tourism. The feeder road programme is in full operation and is expected to be completed in 1963.

There was a setback in operations caused by hurricane "Abby" in July 1960, which destroyed five bridges and caused impasses on several roads by landslides.

CIVIL AVIATION

There are two airports: Vigie Airport, about two miles from Castries, and Beane Field Airport, about forty miles from Castries. The latter is a "deactivated" American military airfield and is available for civil aviation by agreement with the United States military authorities.

Movements at Vigie Airport in 1960 were:

	<i>In</i>	<i>Out</i>
Aircraft	1,303	1,303
Passengers	6,827	6,980

POSTAL SERVICES

External

During 1959-60 British West Indian Airways continued to carry mail on their service connecting the British and French West Indian islands from Jamaica to British Guiana. They also called at British Honduras. During 1960 a weekly flight to St. Vincent was included in the service.

Connections to Dominica and St. Vincent were made via Barbados by Grumman Aircraft, until replaced by Leeward Islands Air Transport which connected St. Lucia with those two places twice weekly in addition to the British West Indian Airways flight.

Air mail to the United States of America, Canada, Curaçao, Aruba and Cayenne were forwarded as closed despatches via Trinidad. Air mail from the United Kingdom was forwarded via Trinidad and Barbados. The volume of airmail correspondence maintained its rapid increase.

Surface mail to and from the United Kingdom was conveyed weekly by banana-carrying steamers operated by Messrs. Geest Industries Ltd.

The Federal boats provided a fortnightly service calling at all ports from Jamaica to British Guiana.

Surface mail from Canada and the United States of America was conveyed by all steamers and motor vessels sailing via Trinidad.

Steamers of the French Line continued to ply between Martinique, St. Lucia and British Guiana via the southern islands. Mails were despatched and received by S.S. *Colombia* of the same line which made monthly calls at St. Lucia.

Internal

Internal communication between towns and villages was carried out by motor bus (under contract) between Castries and Vieux-Fort calling at Bexon, Delaide, Dennery, Micoud, Patience and Vieux-Fort. Communication with the other coastal towns and villages was by two motor vessels (under contract) plying between Castries, Anse-la-Raye, Canaries, Soufriere, La Pointe, Choiseul and Laborie, five times a week. These services provided for the carriage of mails, cargo and passengers. Other motor buses also conveyed mail to sub-post offices in other areas.

Postal Work

In 1959 two sub-post offices, at Grande Riviere and Banse, were established, and in the following year three, at Conway, Delaide and La Pointe.

Three issues of commemorative stamps were on sale during 1959 and 1960:

(a) 3 cent, 6 cent and 12 cent stamps commemorating the inauguration of the Federal Parliament of The West Indies, which were placed on sale on 22nd April 1958 and withdrawn on 22nd April 1959.

(b) 8 cent, 16 cent and 25 cent stamps commemorating the granting of a new constitution to the Windward and Leeward Islands which were placed on sale on 1st January 1960, and withdrawn on 31st December 1960.

(c) 5 cent, 16 cent and 25 cent stamps commemorating the centenary of postage stamps in St. Lucia were placed on sale on 18th December 1960, for a period of six months or until stocks were exhausted, whichever was the sooner.

The local sale of stamps in 1959 amounted to \$100,218 compared with \$143,273 in 1960. Sales of stamps by the Crown Agents totalled \$2,799 in 1959 and \$29,255 in 1960.

The number of parcels received in 1959 was 12,727 and 1,936 were despatched. In 1960 the number received was 15,748 as against 1,856 despatched. In 1959 the amount of import duty collected on parcels was \$86,919 compared with \$112,029 in 1960.

The value of U.S. money orders paid in St. Lucia in 1959 was \$63,715 and approximately \$61,000 in 1960.

The number of telegraphic money orders received for payment from the United Kingdom in 1959 was 144 at a value of \$17,272, and 198 amounting to \$24,463 in 1960.

The value of postal orders paid in 1959 was \$489,298 as compared with \$719,579 in 1960.

The increase in the volume of postal business was maintained and it was expected that it would continue as long as business and trade generally and also migration to the United Kingdom remained at their present levels.

TELEPHONES

In 1959 the Castries exchange was expanded to provide 540 connections.

Telephone rates were increased from \$3.00 to \$4.00 per month for residents and from \$4.00 to \$5.00 for the commercial community. Over 150 telephones were installed between 1959 and 1960 which resulted in an increase in revenue of some \$2,500. Twenty-eight miles of trunk lines were constructed between Castries and Soufriere.

A new 100-line magneto switchboard was installed in Vieux-Fort in 1959 and in 1960 all open wire in Vieux-Fort were replaced by P.V.C. cable. An additional trunk line was constructed between Soufriere and Choiseul.

Between 1959 and 1960 some 14 public telephones were installed in isolated areas.

Chapter 12: Press, Broadcasting, Films and Government Information Services

PRESS

NEWSPAPERS published in the colony were:

Voice of St. Lucia, established in 1885, weekly.

West Indian Crusader, founded in 1934, weekly.

St. Lucia Gazette, issued by the St. Lucia Government every Saturday.

St. Lucia Herald, three times a week.

BROADCASTING

There is one commercial station. A sub-station of the Windward Islands Broadcasting Station, with headquarters in Grenada, was established with the aid of Colonial Development and Welfare funds.

FILMS

No films are produced in the colony.

There are five commercial cinemas, where American and British films are shown. The Public Relations and Social Welfare Department has a mobile film unit and gives film shows (news and documentary) throughout the island.

INFORMATION SERVICES

The Public Relations Office explains the policies, actions and achievements of the Government.

Press communiques and administrative reports were issued to the press and the public; and feature articles, booklets and photographs of topical interest supplied by the Central Office of Information, London, were distributed to schools, local authorities, youth organisations, libraries and public places. The press made good use of this material as well as of items from the London Press Service and British Information Services in Port of Spain.

There are nine communal receiving sets, purchased with Colonial Development and Welfare funds, installed in rural areas.

British and American news shorts were shown by the commercial cinemas, and filmstrips and 16 mm. documentaries were shown in the schools and rural areas. Filmstrips are lent to schools and other interested groups.

The work of the department is carried out by the Public Relations and Social Welfare Officer and a clerk.

PART III

Chapter 1: Geography

GEOGRAPHY

ST. LUCIA, a rugged volcanic island of 238 square miles, lies between the French island of Martinique to the north and St. Vincent to the south in the chain of the Lesser Antilles. The most distinctive feature of the island is its scarcity of level land. Almost everywhere extremely steep slopes and narrow valleys are characteristic. The cone-shaped hills and interior ranges generally do not rise much above 1,200 feet except within five miles of the town of Soufriere.

The highest peak, Mt. Gimie (3,145 ft.) is three miles east of Soufriere. More spectacular are the Gros Piton (2,619 ft.) and the Petit Piton (2,461 ft.), forest-clad, volcanic cones rising sheer out of the sea south of Soufriere. A few miles away, in an ancient crater are hot, bubbling, sulphur springs, an indication of the decadent volcanic activity of this district.

The uplands, covered with tropical rain forest or palms (and in some of the lower areas, with low forest and woodland), possess a red clay soil, highly acid and, when cleared, subject to rapid erosion. Numerous short rivers intersect the mountains which generally rise abruptly from the coast.

In places, the mountain streams debouch into fertile alluvial valleys in which is concentrated most of the island's commercial agriculture. In the northern valleys the soils consist of alluvium from the surrounding hills and are added to each year by flooding streams. Typically, they are brown silicious loams of considerable depth which tend to become heavier and more in need of drainage in the broader parts of the valleys. In the south the soils, both in the valleys and on the lower hillsides, tend to be lighter, better drained and less fertile.

The principal towns are located on bays along the coast.

The capital, Castries (population 32,334), is situated on a sheltered, deep-water harbour capable of docking all but the largest ships. Sloops, schooners and motor vessels connect Castries with the leeward ports and with neighbouring islands. In recent years, the roads connecting Castries with all the main centres of population have been improved, and although in many places these roads are narrow, steep and winding, they are paved and motorable.

CLIMATE

The rainfall varies considerable in various parts of the island. At Castries, the average annual rainfall is 90 inches, at the northern and southern extremities it is 60 to 70 inches, while in the interior and windward districts it may range from 100 to 145 inches.

There are well marked wet and dry seasons. The wet season extends from June to December and the dry from February to May. Except in the northern and southern extremities droughts are seldom experienced. The wettest month is July and the driest February.

Temperatures at Castries range from a minimum 64° F. at night in the cool weather to a maximum shade temperature of 93° F. in the hot season. In the elevated parts of the interior they are lower. The hot season extends from May to October and the cool season from December to March.

The relative humidity is high, ranging from 60 per cent to 95 per cent according to the time of day and the season.

The island lies in the track of West Indian hurricanes, but its situation makes it less liable to these storms than the more northerly islands.

Chapter 2: History

So scant is the information on the early history of St. Lucia that the date of discovery is uncertain, for according to the known evidence of Columbus' voyages, he appears to have missed the island. Recent archaeological finds in various parts of the island may yet contribute to our knowledge about the Caribs, the aboriginal inhabitants of the island, who resisted the early attempts at European settlement.

The first known attempt at settlement was made in 1605 when the *Olive Branch*, driven off course when *en route* for Guiana, landed its 67 passengers under the command of Captain Nicholas St. John. On the ship's departure the colonists were attacked by the Caribs and, after several days' severe fighting, the 19 survivors took to their boat. The island was included in the grant made to the Earl of Carlisle by Charles I in July 1627, and a more determined attempt at settlement was made in 1638 when 130 colonists arrived from Bermuda and Major Judge was appointed Governor. Though reinforcements arrived in 1639 and 1640, the colonists were unable to withstand the Carib attackers, and the island was again abandoned in 1641.

Meanwhile the French developed an interest in the island, which they claimed was included in a grant made by Cardinal Richelieu to M. d'Esnambuc in October 1626. In 1643 M. du Parquet, Lieutenant - General of Martinique, appointed M. Rousselan Governor of St. Lucia. M. Rousselan, who married a Carib, maintained his authority till his death in 1654, but his successors had brief and tragic careers. In 1660, however, local treaties were negotiated by the French Governors of St. Christopher and Guadeloupe and the British Governors of Nevis, Antigua and Montserrat on the one hand and between the French and the Caribs on the other; these treaties left the French in possession of St. Lucia and the possibility of peaceful co-existence arose. But in 1663 Francis Lord Willoughby reached Barbados as Governor and as heir to the English Patent and to the problem of finding accommodation for Barbados' surplus population. Barbados not being party to the 1660 treaty, he utilised the services of "Indian" Warner to purchase St. Lucia from the Caribs and the following year, 1664, sent an expedition under Colonel Carew to occupy the island, the French Governor capitulating without a shot being fired. The settlement proved a failure and, on the English withdrawal from the island early in 1666, the French resumed occupation. But the wars of 1673 and 1688, the attacks of the English and the lack of assistance received by the settlement from Martinique forced a French withdrawal in turn.

In 1718 a fresh grant of the island was made by the French regent, the Duke of Orleans, to Marechal D'Estrees, who attempted to settle it with refugees. British objections were raised to this grant and in 1722 George I granted St. Lucia and St. Vincent to the Duke of Montagu. An expedition under Nathaniel Uring was fitted out at great expense to consolidate this grant; but local French opposition proved too strong and the expedition was forced to withdraw early in 1723 on the signature of an agreement that, subsequent to the British withdrawal, the French would also evacuate and leave the island in its former state till a decision should be reached between the two Crowns.

The next attempt at settlement was made in 1744 when England and France being once again at war, the Marquis de Champigny, Governor of Martinique, established a garrison there under M. de Longueville as military commandant. The Treaty of Aix la Chapelle in 1748 in theory once more restored the *status quo ante*; in practice, however, M. de Longueville remained as civil commandant till his death in 1761, when he was succeeded by his nephew. Meanwhile English and French commissaries disputed at length the respective rights of their nations to the island.

In February 1762, war having once again broken out, the island surrendered to Captain Hervey, one of Lord Rodney's staff; but at the Treaty of Paris in 1763 the island was finally assigned to France. With security of tenure at last, apparently, assured, the French proceeded rapidly with its development and fortification. The fortifications were strengthened by the construction of the massive forts on Morne Fortune and the capital was removed to its present site from Le Petit Carenage in the Castries Harbour on the Vigie Peninsular. But the island was not yet due for a period of peaceful progress; with one of the finest small harbours in the Caribbean its military importance was such that it immediately became a target when war broke out, and its improved defences only ensured that subsequent fighting should be more bloody. In December 1778 a strong British expedition surprised and captured the island and French relieving forces under Count d'Estaing were beaten off. Lord Rodney had been so impressed by the strategic potentialities of the island as a naval base that he wrote in May 1778 to the Earl of Sandwich stressing the importance of retaining the island (his letter is reproduced in full in H. H. Breen's *St. Lucia*, p.57), and it was from St. Lucia that he sailed in 1782 to win his great Battle of the Saints over the French under de Grasse. But in 1783 it was agreed in the Treaty of Versailles that the island should be restored to France, though the British continued in possession till January 1784.

When war broke out again, an expedition was sent from England to the West Indies under Admiral Jervis. This force surprised the French and captured St. Lucia in April 1794. France at this time was in the throes of its revolution and in February 1794 a decree had been promulgated for the abolition of slavery in the French Antilles. On the surrender of St. Lucia many of the ex-slaves and a number of French soldiers escaped into the woods whence, with the aid of planters of republican sympathies, they harassed the British. In June 1794 Victor Hugues arrived in Guadeloupe as representative of the National Convention, and he so succeeded in organising and inspiring the disaffected that they compelled the depleted British garrison to withdraw in 1795. A strong British force under General Abercrombie reconquered the fortifications after severe fighting in the summer of 1796; but it was not till the end of 1797 that guerilla warfare ceased and the "Armée française dans les bois" surrendered at discretion.

By the Treaty of Amiens in 1802 the island was once more returned to France. But with the resumption of hostilities it again became the object of British attack and it was captured in June 1803. Since then St. Lucia has remained without interruption under British rule, and it was finally ceded to Britain by the Treaty of Paris in 1814.

Till 1838 St. Lucia was administered as a separate administrative unit, its Governor being in direct correspondence with the Colonial Office. In 1838 it was annexed to the Government of the Windward Islands, then comprising Barbados, Grenada, St. Vincent and Tobago with the seat of the government at Barbados. Though from time to time since then the composition and the seat of government of the Windward Islands changed, St. Lucia always remained a member.

At the end of 1959, the post of Governor of the Windward Islands was abolished. From 1st January 1960 St. Lucia has been administered as a separate unit.

An important event in St. Lucia's history was the establishment of two United States bases under the 1940 Anglo-American agreement. In 1950 one of these bases, at Beane Field, was "de-activated" and the Government assumed control by agreement. This base was brought back into use in September 1954.

When the French claim to the island was conceded in 1763, their first aim was to develop the colony as an entrepôt centre. But estates were also planted with coffee, cocoa and cotton; the first sugar estate was established in 1765 and sugar gradually obtained pre-eminence in the colony's economy. As British annexation came when talk of emancipation was in the air, and as it was followed by the Emancipation Act in 1833, economic development was slow. But later in the century, with the advent of steamships, the colony became an important coaling station, an activity which reached its peak during the 1914-18 war; with the change over to oil-burning vessels this trade declined.

On the whole St. Lucia has escaped the hurricanes, earthquakes and other visitations of nature which have caused so much damage in the other West Indian islands. The first recorded instance of a hurricane visiting the island occurred in 1675; it was visited by severe hurricanes in 1780 and 1817—the latter blowing down Government House and burying the Governor and many others in the ruins. The latest major disasters up to the end of the period reviewed were the fires which destroyed large parts of Castries in 1948 and 1951; the fire which destroyed three-fifths of the town of Soufriere in 1955; and hurricane "Abby" which caused temporary but severe damage in 1960.

Chapter 3: Administration

CENTRAL GOVERNMENT

FOLLOWING decisions taken at a constitutional conference in London in June 1959, a new constitution came into force on 1st January 1960. The main features are:

(a) The post of Governor of the Windward Islands was abolished and each of the Windward Islands including St. Lucia is now administered as a separate unit. The Administrator has become Her Majesty's Representative in the Territory and is now appointed by Her Majesty and exercises such of the former powers of the Governor as have been retained under the new constitution (these powers are considerably reduced under the new constitution).

(b) The Executive Council has the general control and direction of the government of the Territory. It is presided over by the Administrator and there are one *ex officio* member (the principal law officer) and five unofficial members (including the Chief Minister and three other Ministers). Of these the four Ministers are appointed from the elected members of the Legislative Council and the other unofficial member is appointed from either the elected or the nominated members of the Legislative Council. The Administrator appoints as Chief Minister the member of the Legislative Council who, in his judgment, is most likely to command a majority in the Legislative Council. The other unofficial members are appointed by the Administrator on the advice of the Chief Minister. Ministers are assigned responsibility for any Government business (including financial matters), except criminal proceedings, internal security, the audit of public accounts and the public service.

(c) The Legislative Council is composed of one *ex officio* member (the principal law officer), two nominated members appointed by the Administrator in his discretion and ten members elected by universal adult suffrage. It is presided over by a Speaker elected by the Council either from within or without the Council, and having only a casting vote. There is a Deputy Speaker elected from within the Council.

The members of the Executive and Legislative Councils at the end of 1960 are listed below:

MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

The Administrator (President)

The Attorney General

G. F. L. Charles (Chief Minister and Minister of Finance)

H. B. Collymore (Minister of Trade and Industry)

M. Jn. Baptiste (Minister of Communications and Works)

J. A. Bousquet (Minister of Labour and Social Affairs)

G. Mason (Member without Portfolio).

MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL*Speaker*

Hon. C. A. Compton

Ex Officio Member

Attorney General

Elected Members

G. F. L. Charles, Chief Minister

H. B. Collymore, Minister of Trade and Industry

M. Jn. Baptiste, Minister of Communications and Works

J. A. Bousquet, Minister of Labour and Social Affairs

G. A. Mason, Member for Choiseul

J. G. M. Compton, Member for Micoud, Praslin

C. A. M. Compton, Member for Vieux-Fort and Laborie

G. W. Mallet, Member for Central Castries

M. M. Mason, Member for Dennery

V. G. Monroe, Member for Soufriere

Nominated Members

M. C. Salles-Miquelle, O.B.E.

D. B. James.

Chapter 4: Weights and Measures

THE standard measures recognised by the laws of St. Lucia are the Imperial yard, the Imperial pound, and Imperial gallon.

Chapter 5: Reading List

- BREEN, H. H. *St. Lucia: Historical, Statistical and Descriptive*. Longmans, Brown Green and Longmans, 1844.
- GARRAWAY, E. G. *St. Lucia Handbook, 1900, 1902 and 1903*. Revised by W. W. Palmer and M. G. Augustin, Castries, 1924.
- URING, N. A. *Relation of the late Intended Settlement of the Islands of St. Lucia and St. Vincent in America in Right of the Duke of Montagu and under His Grace's Direction and Orders, in the Year 1722*. London, 1725.
- WILLIAMS, REV. COOPER. *An Account of the Campaign in the West Indies in the Year 1794*. London, 1796.
- The Memorials of the English and French Commissaries concerning St. Lucia*. London, 1755.
- Essai sur la Colonie de Sainte Lucia. Par un ancien Intendant de Cette Isle*. Neuchatel, 1779.

The following books have sections on St. Lucia:

- ASPINAL, SIR ALGERNON. *The Pocket Guide to the West Indies*. 10th edition. Methuen, 1954.
- BLANSHARD, PAUL. *Democracy and Empire in the Caribbean*. Macmillan, New York, 1947.
- BOND, JAMES. *Birds of the West Indies*. Collins, 1960.
- BURN, W. L. *The British West Indies*. Hutchinson, 1951.
- BURNS, SIR ALAN. *History of the British West Indies*. Allen and Unwin, 1954.
- BUTLER, G. PAUL and BUTLER, ERICA. *Caribbean and Central America*. Toronto, D. Von Nostrand, 1960.
- CUTTERIDGE, J. O. *Geography of the West Indies and Adjacent Islands*. 2nd edition. Nelson, 1948.
- DANIEL, E. W. *West Indian Histories. Book III: Story of the West Indian Colonies*. Nelson, 1942.
- EDWARDS, BRYAN. *History, Civil and Commercial, of the British Colonies in the West Indies*. 2 vols 1793. 5th edition, 6 vols., 1818-19.
- FERMOR, PATRICK LEIGH. *The Travellers' Tree: a journey through the Caribbean Islands*. Murray, 1950.

- FODOR's *Guide to the Caribbean, Bahamas and Bermuda*. MacGibbon and Kee, 1961.
- FROUDE, J. A. *The English in the West Indies*. Longmans, 1888.
- HIGHAM, C. S. S. *The Development of the Leeward Islands under the Restoration, 1660-1688*. Cambridge University Press, 1921.
- KNOWLES, W. H. *Trade Union Development and Industrial Relations in the British West Indies*. Berkeley, University of California Press, 1959.
- MANNINGTON, GEORGE. *The West Indies*. Nash and Crayson, 1930.
- MITTELHOLZER, EDGAR. *A Tale of Three Places*. Secker & Warburg, 1957.
- PARES, R. *War and Trade in the West Indies, 1739-1763*. Oxford University Press, 1936.
- RAGATZ, LOWELL J. *The Fall of the Planter Class in the British Caribbean, 1763-1833*. The Century Co., New York.
- REDGRAVE, WILLIAM J. *Islands in the Wind: what to see and how to cut costs in the West Indies*. 4th edition. Greenlawn, New York. Harian Publications, 1961.
- TREVES, SIR FREDERICK. *The Cradle of the Deep*. Murray, 1904. (Reprinted, 1934.)
- WILLIAMSON, J. A. *The Caribbee Islands under the Proprietary Patents*. Oxford University Press, 1926.
- The West Indies and Caribbean Year Book*. Thomas Skinner, Annual.
- The Windward Islands Annual*. Published by Letchworth Publishing Agency for the Windward Islands Government.

OFFICIAL PUBLICATIONS

Obtainable, if in print, from the Government Printer, St. Lucia.

- Report of the Federal Team to St. Lucia*. 1960.
- Report of the Commission of Enquiry into the Police under the Chairmanship of Mr. Justice J. W. B. Chenery*. 1962.
- Report of the Commission of Enquiry into the Police under the Chairmanship of Sir Eric Hallinan*. 1962.
- The Forest and Timber Trees of St. Lucia*. By W. G. LANG.
- Report on Yields and Costs Production of Coconuts and Bananas in St. Lucia*. By J. WRIGHT, C.B.E., B.Sc., A.I.C.T.A.

Quarterly Progress Reports on the Agricultural Development Programme for St. Lucia. September, 1954.

St. Lucia Gazette (weekly.)

Estimates of Revenue and Expenditure. (Annual.)

Obtainable, if in print, from Her Majesty's Stationery Office.

Report of the Leeward and Windward Islands Constitutional Conference held in London, June, 1959. Cmd. 804, 1959.

APPENDIX I

The following Colonial Development and Welfare schemes were initiated or in progress during 1959 and 1960:

<i>Scheme No.</i>	<i>Grant £</i>	<i>Titles</i>
D2057	5,513	Development of Timber Industry.
D4441	17,893	Additional Staff, Public Works Department.
D4516	43,936	Additional Staff, Agricultural Department.
D4537	8,225	Livestock Improvement.
D4561	3,441	Administrative and Secretarial Staff for Development.
D2162 & A	65,300	Livestock Improvement
D4430	1,078	Public Health Nursing Service.
D4331	13,737	Supplementary Staff, Medical Department.
D4207	4,874	Soil Survey of St. Lucia.
D4071 (56)	501	Training of C. G. Mason at Eastern Caribbean Farm Institute, Trinidad.
D4071 (55)	501	Training of G. Allain at Eastern Caribbean Farm Institute, Trinidad.
D4071 (43)	52	Training of Enumerator, Household Budget Survey.
D4071 (41)	134	Youth Leaders' Seminar in Trinidad.
D4071 (33)	317	Training in Criminal Investigation in Jamaica.
D4071 (22)	247	Training in Public and Business Administration.
D4001	11,000	Choiseul Water Supply.
D3895	1,360	Renovation of Water Supply System, Cocoa propagation centre.
D3844	1,380	Establishment of a Relay station in St. Lucia.
D3841 (19)	728	Visit of expert in Handicrafts.
D3840 (29)	500	Improvement of Minor Local Roads.
D3840 (28)	500	Broom-making Industry.
D3840 (27)	209	Purchase of four radio sets with Batteries and Speakers.
D3840 (26)	500	Purchase of two portable Power Saws and spares.
D3736 (29)	388 10 10	Training in Puerto Rico.
D3736 (16)	88	Return passage to Puerto Rico.
D3736 (9)	157	Passages for four trainees in Puerto Rico.
D3735 (86)	272	Training in Business and Works Management in Jamaica.
D3735 (85)	175	Training in Statistics in Trinidad.
D3735 (84)	206	Course in Public and Business Administration at the University College of the West Indies.
D3735 (82)	231	Training of Sanitary Inspector in Meat and Food Inspection in Jamaica.
D3735 (81)	176	Training in Probation work in Trinidad.
D3735 (78)	310	Training in Airport Management Trinidad..
D3735 (66)	37	Course in Agriculture Sample Survey, Trinidad.
D3735 (56)	944	Training of Prudhomme Dusauzay at Eastern Caribbean Institute.
D3567	3,560	Banana Officer, St. Lucia.
D3566	3,075	Administrative Secretary and Staff.

<i>Scheme No.</i>	<i>Grant £</i>	<i>Titles</i>
D3559	5,665	Training of Teachers at Erdiston College, Barbados.
D3546	430	Training of Surveyor in Trinidad.
D3527	18,000	Farm School for Delinquents, St. Lucia.
D3487	600	Agricultural Rehabilitation Survey, Dennery Area.
D3468 & A	9,307	Handicraft and Cottage Industries.
D3448 (11)	495	Construction of a Pilot Cocoa Fermentary.
D3448 (8)	500	Construction of a Produce Market at Canaries.
D3446 (64)	60	Training of Miss I. Watson.
D3446 (62)	519	Training of Cuthbert Henry at Eastern Caribbean Farm Institute.
D3446 (63)	519	Training of A. E. Noel at Eastern Caribbean Farm Institute.
D3446 (57)	200	Training at Mental Hospital, Barbados.
D3446 (26)	124	Training in Customs and Excise in Trinidad.
D3446 (25)	124	Training in Accountancy in Trinidad.
D3445 (18)	618	Scholarships in Agricultural Engineering, Canada.
D3381	3,438	Expanded Trepanematosis Campaign.
D3285 (Loan)	85,000	Agricultural Credit Fund.
D3279 (6)	166 13 4	Vocational Training Centre, Puerto Rico.
D3279 (1)	41 13 4	Vocational Training, Puerto Rico.
D3257	49,234	Fisheries Development in St. Lucia.
D3129 A	152,550	Improvements to Vigie Airport.
D3058 A, B	26,247	Nurses Quarters, Victoria Hospital.
D2979 A	51,054	Soufriere Reconstruction.
D2966	51,603	Dredging of Castries Harbour.
D2901 A	8,209	Construction of Health Centre.
D2892 A	39,080	Forestry Development.
D2885 A, B	5,875	Contribution to Police Training School, Barbados
D2845 A, B	4,115	Recurrent Administrative Cost of Eastern Caribbean Farm Institute.
D2826	1,420	Scholarship for Diploma Course at Imperial College of Tropical Agriculture.
D2800 A	21,900	Geological Survey, Windward Islands.
D2764	11,040	Construction and Staffing of T.B. Ward.
D2763 A, B	60,145	Construction of General Post Office and Town Hall.
D2752 A	42,196	Equipment and Staff for Feeder Road Programme.
D2751 A, B	9,261	Public Health Nursing Service.
D2739 A, B	40,874	Public Health Engineering.
D2658 (194)	866	Training of Messrs. Issac and James at Eastern Caribbean Farm Institute.
D2658 (79)	688	Training in Surveying, Trinidad.
D2658 (63)	828	Training of Auguste and Delmede at Eastern Caribbean Farm Institute.
D2658 (56)	416	Training in Accountancy in Trinidad.
D2609 A, B	26,642	Additional Public Works Staff.
D2586	7,173	Conservation of Forests, Windward Islands.
D2556 A, B	26,841	Purchase and Reconditioning of Agricultural Department Tractors.
D2210 A, C	214,252	Feeder Road Programme.
D2165 A	141,806	Agricultural Staff.
D2164 A, B	82,781	Investigation and Development, Programme for Agriculture.
D2154 A, B	82,087	Development of Main Roads, Castries, Dennery and Castries, Anse la Raye.

<i>Scheme No.</i>	<i>Grant £</i>	<i>Titles</i>
D2163 A, C	78,780	Cocoa Propagation.
D1985 A	669,000	Castries Reconstruction.
D13E (k)	100	Playing Fields at Gros Islet and Anse la Raye.
D734 D, H	36,890	Executive Architect and Staff.
D969 B	7,073	Additional Staff, Public Works Department.
D1869 A, E	26,315	Insect Control Programme.
D4577	19,514	Technical Training Centre.
D4578	28,003	General Investigation and Development, Prepare for Agriculture.
R852 (10)	105	Investigation of the distribution of immunity to poliomyelitis in St. Lucia.

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PENDIX IV

ORTED TO THE POLICE IN 1960
Number of Cases

CASES NOT ACCEPTED			Total	Accused dead or insane or too young to prosecute	Acquitted or Discharged
<i>ints due ake of r fact</i>	<i>Frivolous vex- atious or false compl.</i>	<i>Insufficient Evidence</i>			
1	10	2	632	—	17
-	—	—	1	—	—
-	—	—	8	—	—
-	8	—	80	—	7
-	2	3	11	—	3
-	—	1	1	—	—
-	1	—	9	—	2
-	—	—	3	—	—
-	—	—	5	1	1
-	22	10	265	—	5
-	12	1	120	—	4
-	1	—	24	—	3
-	95	7	765	—	20
-	4	—	8	—	—
-	9	—	189	—	5
-	2	—	15	—	4
-	—	—	5	—	1
-	1	—	10	—	1
1	2	—	75	—	4
-	4	2	103	—	12
-	—	—	7	—	—
2	173	26	2,336	1	89

Number of Persons

NUMBERS CONVICTED										
Total		Imprisonment				Fine				Order proceedin
Juv. 8-16		M	F	Juv. 8-16		M	F	Juv. 8-16		M
M	F			M	F			M	F	
21	4	5	2	2	—	387	193	1	2	—
—	—	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
—	—	3	1	—	—	3	—	—	—	—
3	—	3	—	—	—	34	1	—	—	—
—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	—	—	—
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
8	—	7	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
—	—	—	—	—	—	98	50	5	—	—

DISPOSAL OF ACCEPTED CASES

<i>Nolle Prosequi (and withdrawn)</i>	<i>Convicted</i>	<i>Cases proved and order made with- out conviction</i>	<i>Closed Un- detected</i>	<i>Pending Inves- tigation or awaiting trial</i>
47	474	—	—	94
—	1	—	—	—
2	5	—	—	1
5	51	—	3	14
1	2	—	—	5
—	—	—	—	1
—	6	—	—	1
1	—	—	—	2
—	2	—	—	1
8	172	—	6	74
4	75	—	1	36
2	14	—	1	4
17	180	—	346	202
—	—	—	4	4
—	13	—	81	90
5	2	—	—	4
2	1	—	—	1
—	—	—	6	3
4	40	—	10	17
10	40	—	23	18
—	1	—	—	6
108	1,079	—	481	578

<i>made without g to Conviction</i>			<i>Other Penalties</i>				<i>Otherwise Disposed of</i>			
F	Juv. 8-16		M	F	Juv. 8-16		M	F	Juv. 8-16	
	M	F			M	F			M	F
—	—	—	17	8	11	2	45	25	7	—
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
—	—	—	3	3	3	—	3	—	—	—
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	3	1	—

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Report for the years
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Map at end

PART I

Review of 1961 and 1962

THE West Indies Federation of which St. Lucia was a unit territory was dissolved on 31st May 1962.

Following this dissolution Jamaica and Trinidad and Tobago, participants in the defunct Federation, became independent countries within the Commonwealth on the 5th and 31st August 1962 respectively, and the remaining eight territories comprising the Windward Islands, Leeward Islands and Barbados, sought to establish a new Federation of the Eastern Caribbean.

A Conference was held in London during the month of May 1962 to work out the details of this new Federation.

A Regional Council of Ministers, with the Governor of Barbados as Chairman, and comprising the Chief Ministers of the Windward Islands, Leeward Islands and Barbados, was established to decide on matters of common interest and, in particular, matters relating to the establishment of the proposed Federation.

General elections were held in April 1961 for the first time under the Saint Lucia (Constitution) Order in Council 1959, which provided for a ministerial form of Government, and the St. Lucia Labour Party, which held a majority on the Legislative Council from 1957, won nine of the ten electoral seats.

The Earl of Oxford and Asquith, C.M.G., Administrator of St. Lucia, was transferred to the Seychelles Islands as Governor and Commander-in-Chief during 1962. He was succeeded on 18th January 1962 by Mr. Gerald Jackson Bryan, O.B.E., M.C., Administrator of the British Virgin Islands.

Following talks held in December 1960 between the Government of the United States, the United Kingdom and the now defunct West Indies Federation, the Government of the United States released certain portions of lands at Vieux-Fort held by that Government under a 99 years' lease agreement signed during World War II for the defence of the Western Hemisphere.

The Windward Islands American Co-operative Service which was started in 1959 for the purpose of assisting the Government in executing certain well needed projects with funds provided partly by

the United States Government and partly by the Federal Government was finally wound up in July 1962, and the organisation's moveable assets remaining in each territory were formally handed over to the Government concerned.

In October 1961 a total of 15 United States Peace Corps Volunteers arrived in St. Lucia to assist in various fields of activity in the island, including agricultural extension work, field trials in connection with agriculture, development of an island-wide rural youth organisation and 4-H clubs, afforestation and silvicultural work, adult education work, home economics, agricultural education in elementary schools, teacher training and public health.

Bananas continued to be the territory's leading export and a total of 49,469 tons valued at \$5.8 million (B.W.I. Currency) were shipped to the United Kingdom during 1962. Feeder roads construction for the expansion of agricultural production was undertaken through Public Works Extraordinary and Colonial Development and Welfare grants.

Construction of a luxury hotel was completed towards the end of 1962 and several hotels extended accommodation to meet the growing demands of the tourist industry. Fiscal concessions were granted under the Hotels Aid Ordinance. The number of cruise ships calling at the island increased by 50 per cent in 1962 over the previous year.

PART II

Chapter 1: Population

ACCORDING to the Eastern Caribbean census taken in April 1960 the population of St. Lucia was then 86,108. It is estimated that the population at the end of 1962 was 96,841.

Other vital statistics for 1961 and 1962 are as follows:

	1961	1962
Live Births registered: Male . . .	1,972	2,054
Female . . .	2,039	1,881
TOTAL . . .	4,011	3,935
Birth rate per 1,000 of the population* . . .	42.3	41.1
Still Births	108	111
Deaths	1,228	1,186
Death rate per 1,000 of the population* . . .	13.0	12.4
Infant Deaths	408	405
Infant Mortality rate per 1,000 live births . .	101.7	102.9
Marriages	1,058	342

* Mid-year population estimated on the basis of the 1960 Census results.

Chapter 2: Occupations, Wages and Labour Organisation

EMPLOYMENT

The total labour force, by sex and major industrial group, as recorded in the 1960 Population Census

	Male	Female	Total
Agriculture	10,799	4,345	15,144
Manufacturing	1,846	1,622	3,468
Construction	2,447	151	2,598
Commerce	975	1,503	2,478
Transport and Communication	551	64	615
Services	1,401	2,596	3,997
Others (including unemployed)	1,856	1,012	2,868
	19,875	11,293	31,168

There are no statistics available by which the actual extent of unemployment and under-employment in this territory may be determined.

During the period under review the Public Works Department provided employment for approximately 2,000 persons per fortnight on various projects undertaken by that department. The projects which provided regular employment included the repairing of existing roads and the school building programme.

The construction of the Reduit Beach Hotel which commenced in October 1961 provided regular employment for approximately 150 artisans and labourers throughout the period of construction which ended during the latter part of 1962.

The sugar industry provided employment in the harvesting season for approximately 1,650 persons in 1961 and 1,200 persons in 1962. The decrease in 1962 was principally due to the decision of the St. Lucia Sugar Manufacturers' Association to close down the Cul-de-Sac Factory at the end of the 1961 crop season in order to concentrate on and extend its present acreage of banana cultivation which has now become the primary economic agricultural crop in the territory. Government continued to be the biggest employer of labour in the island.

Migration

A table showing the movement of persons from St. Lucia to overseas territories for or in search of employment during the period under review is given below:

<i>Year</i>	<i>U.S.A.</i>	<i>Canada</i>	<i>St. Croix</i>	<i>Antigua</i>	<i>St. Kitts</i>	<i>U.K.</i>
1961	218	16	252	104	138	996
• 1962	199	16	310	102	—	345
	417	32	562	206	138	1,341

Recruiting formalities for the U.S.A., Canada, St. Croix, Antigua and St. Kitts continued to be carried out by the officers of the Labour Department. There were no significant changes in the conditions of employment in the various territories to which St. Lucia workers migrated under organised schemes. The wage rates and conditions of employment in St. Kitts were the least attractive among those affecting the employment of St. Lucian workers in overseas territories. All recruitment expenses for these men including medical expenses were defrayed by the St. Lucia Government; the transportation costs were shared by the American employers and the workers. In the case of recruitment to St. Croix and Antigua, the Government bore the recruitment expenses and the employer underwrote the costs of the journey.

In 1962, particularly after the enactment of the Commonwealth Immigration Act in July, there was a considerable decrease in the number of persons emigrating to Britain due to the restrictions contained therein.

WAGES AND CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT

In most industries an eight-hour day and 45-hour week are worked and wages are determined mainly by collective bargaining. In the case of bakers, commercial employees and shop assistants, Wage Council Orders of 1956 regulate wages and conditions of employment. In addition, the Holidays with Pay Ordinance No. 15 of 1957, as amended by the Holidays with Pay (Amendment) Ordinance No. 21 of 1959, provides among other things for (i) two weeks' holiday with pay provided that a worker has been in continuous employment with his employer for a year and during that period has worked for at least 200 days; (ii) holiday pay amounting to one-twentieth of the employee's total remuneration over the period concerned provided that the employee has worked for a continuous period for at least 90 days, and (iii) the keeping of records by employers of their employees which may be required and are expected to be presented to the Labour Commissioner or his authorised representative at the time of any inspection.

Some sample wage rates in 1961 and 1962 are given below:

<i>Agriculture</i>	<i>1961 per day</i>	<i>1962 per day</i>
Men	\$1.68	\$1.75
Women	\$1.08	\$1.25
Boys (16-18 years)	.90	\$1.15
(14-16 years)	.69	.90
Girls (16-18 years)	.74	.85
(14-16 years)	.59	.75
 <i>Banana Reception Sheds</i>	 <i>Weekly</i>	 <i>Fortnightly</i>
Selection	\$19.00	\$25.00
Watchmen (weighbridge)	11.00	
Watchmen (yard)	5.00	
Boss Women	7.50	
Banana Checkers		\$6.25 flat
Labourers (men)		29 cents per hour
Labourers (women)		20 cents per hour
Baggers (women)		1½ cents per stem or 20 cents per hour
Packers (shed)		29 cents per hour
Women Carriers		92 cents per stem

St. Lucia: 1961 and 1962

<i>Commerce</i>	<i>per month</i>
Castries Town: Shop Assistants	\$25.00 (a)
	\$28.00 (b)
All other areas: Shop Assistants	\$21.25 (a)
	\$23.80 (b)
Office Clerks	\$35.00 (a)
	\$15.00 (b)

(a) In business places open for any time between 7 a.m. and 5 p.m.

(b) In business places open for any time between 7 a.m. and 9 p.m.

<i>Port Services</i>	<i>per hour</i>
Dockmen	76 cents
Holdmen and Dock or Gangway Watchmen	83 "
Winchmen, Guymen, Hold Watchmen & Gangwaymen	\$1.02 "
Tally Clerks	\$1.16

<i>Sugar Industry Factory Workers</i>	<i>1961 per hour</i>	<i>1962 per hour</i>
Apprentices	6 cents and 13 cents	6½ cents and 13½ cents
Semi-skilled Workmen	28 "	29 "
Skilled Workmen	40 "	41 "

Selected Task Work in Sugar Industry

<i>Reaping Operations:</i>	<i>1961</i>	<i>1962</i>
Cutting Canes	\$1.04 per ton	\$1.10 per ton
Heading Canes	97 cents for 1st waggon	\$1.00 for 1st waggon
	\$1.03 for 2nd waggon	\$1.06 for 2nd waggon
	\$1.10 for 3rd waggon	\$1.13 for 3rd waggon
	43 cents per waggon	44 cents per waggon

*Hourly Wage Rates paid by Government to its Daily Paid (Casual)
Employees during 1961 and 1962*

<i>Craft</i>	<i>Apprentices</i> <i>Min. Max.</i> <i>Cents</i>		<i>Semi-skilled</i> <i>Min. Max.</i> <i>Cents</i>		<i>Tradesmen</i> <i>Min. Max.</i> <i>Cents</i>		<i>Foremen</i> <i>Min. Max.</i> <i>Cents</i>		
Electricians Welders Tinners Mech. Equip. Operators	}	19½	20½	29½	33½	42½	52½	66	80½
B									
Joiners									
Mechanics									
C									
Masons Carpenters Plumbers Painters Drillers Smiths	}	19½	20½	29½	29½	33½	41½	50½	61½
D									
Chauffeurs						36	44½		

	Normal Rate		Semi-skilled		Gangers	
	Min.	Max.	Min.	Max.	Min.	Max.
E						
Labourers:						
Male	23½	23½	29½	36½	36½	48
Female	20½	20½				
F						
Watchmen	20½					
G						
Timekeepers	38½	46½				
Storekeepers						
Checkers						

N.B.—Labourers: Male outside Castries 20½ cents
 Female „ „ 18½ „

COST OF LIVING

The following figures show the monthly changes in the Cost of Living Index for 1961 and 1962 as compared with the basic year 1939. The index indicates living costs for working class families and covers food, clothing, rent, fuel, light, washing and household equipment and miscellaneous items.

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
1939	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	100	102	104	105
1961	331	332	333	333	333	331	332	332	332	337	336	329
1962	331	329	330	331	332	334	336	337	337	337	339	339

Prices of the principal foodstuffs in the year 1961 and 1962 were as follows:

	1961	1962
	Cents per lb.	Cents per lb.
Beef	50	50
Fish (fresh)	30	30
Vegetables (green)	16	13
Fish (salt)	40-50	40-50
Sugar	11	13
Flour	12	12
Margarine	52	49

LABOUR DEPARTMENT

The renovation of a Government building situated on the western end of Castries Town was completed and both the Labour Department and the Social Welfare Department were transferred to this building.

Duties of Staff

The Labour Ordinance enacted in 1938 was replaced by the Labour Ordinance No. 34 of 1959 and the Labour Regulations S.R. & O. No. 15 of 1960. The principal duties of the department are as follows:

- (a) to regulate, supervise and review the various forms of employment of labour which exist in the territory;
- (b) to ensure the due enforcement of labour legislation in the territory;
- (c) to bring to the notice of the Minister every matter or thing which is likely to be prejudicial to the welfare of any class of labour or cause of disagreement between workers and their employers;
- (d) to make recommendations to the Minister from time to time for promoting the general welfare of workers.

The Labour Ordinance provides that the Labour Commissioner shall be *ex officio* a Labour Inspector and confers on him powers to enter all places where work is proceeding. In addition, he is the Chief Factory Inspector and exercises all the powers which the Factory Ordinance provides for its enforcement.

The Assistant Labour Commissioner assists the Labour Commissioner generally in the performance of his duties. His more specific duties are the compilation of the cost-of-living index figures; he assists in disposing of grievances between employers and employees and, in his capacity as Minimum Wages Inspector and Enforcement Officer under the Wages Council Ordinance, he may inspect places of employment; and he supervises the administration of the Labour Inspectorate. There are now two Labour Inspectors who are primarily responsible for the inspection of work places, employers' records of employment and the investigation and settlement of minor industrial disputes.

The Senior Clerk supervises the work of the clerical establishment and is particularly concerned with matters relating to the employment of migrant workers. This officer also assists in matters falling within the scope of the department.

The junior clerks keep the compulsory savings accounts of workers in overseas employment. An important aspect of their accounting consists of converting the amount of compulsory savings received in United States currency to British West Indian currency and preparing vouchers for the payment of allotments to dependants, and balances to workers on their return.

Inspections and Complaints

In 1961 *ad hoc* inspections were carried out in the sugar factories and commercial establishments. With the appointment of the two Labour Inspectors organised inspection programmes were prepared and carried out. Eighty-six business places were inspected during the latter part of 1962. During the course of these inspections it was

revealed that employees were working in excess of the aggregate number of hours stipulated by law for their particular employment. Minor complaints engaged the greater part of the time of the Labour Inspectors, the majority of which were lodged by domestic servants and bankers. Most of these complaints were amicably settled.

Employment Exchange

There is no labour exchange in the territory. But, as in previous years, the Labour Department continued to function as a labour exchange. Consideration of the establishment of a properly functioning labour exchange was taken into account and application was made to Britain for assistance during the year.

INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS

Trade Unions

There are nine registered workers' trade unions and one employers' union. During the period under review the territory's first employers' union—the St. Lucia Employers' Federation—was registered. This union intends to organise employers in agriculture, commerce and industry and is affiliated to the West Indies Employers' Consultative Committee.

During the last quarter of 1961 the Union of Commercial Employees inaugurated a term of evening classes designed to stimulate interest and create ambition among its members on matters of education. Commencing on the 5th October 1961, with a programme of education, they celebrated their first anniversary which lasted for one week.

The St. Lucia Employers' Federation and the St. Lucia Workers' Union in the territory, in collaboration with Government and the Extra Mural Department of the U.C.W.I., organised a week-end trade union symposium which took place over the week-end 29th June to 2nd July 1962. Leaders of the symposium were Dr. Zin Henry, Consultant to the Government of Trinidad and Tobago on Personnel Management, Dr. R. Edwards, Secretary, Trinidad and Tobago Employment Consultative Committee, and Mr. Basil Blackman, Education Secretary, Caribbean Congress of Labour. They dealt with local problems of industrial relations.

Joint Consultation and Wage Fixing Methods

Joint consultative machinery in industry was mostly inactive during the period under review but the Whitley Council for public service employees and Works Council in essential and health services as well as in the sugar industry remained nominally in existence.

The Wage Council Ordinance No. 1 of 1952 provides for the establishment of wage fixing machinery for the effective regulation of wages and other conditions of employment in respect of any category or group of workers which the Governor-in-Council, after having regard to existing remuneration, considers it necessary that such workers' conditions of employment should be statutorily regulated. Workers and employers organisations are associated with the functioning of the Wages Council machinery.

Trade Disputes and Stoppages of Work

In 1961 there were no industrial disputes or stoppages of work. However, in 1962 the cordial relations which hitherto existed between employers and workers were marred by the following work stoppages:

Minvielle and Chastnet (1951) Ltd.

On the 13th March 1962 a stoppage of work, which involved 97 workers, occurred at the construction of Messrs. Minvielle & Chastnet (1951) Ltd. situated at Bridge Street, Castries. Investigation by the Labour Department revealed that the stoppage of work was the result of the dismissal of a foreman because of the concern of the employers about the frequency of overtime worked and an apparent slackening in output among workers during their normal hours of work.

The works foreman was requested to improve output during the normal working hours but after some days there was no apparent improvement in the situation and he was dismissed. This action by management led to the stoppage of work among the workers on the 13th March 1962. The workers resumed work on 23rd March 1962. They were not organised or represented by any trade union.

Messrs. E.C.M. Cape International Ltd.

On the 17th April 1962 the Research Officer of the Agricultural Department complained about the quality of the tasks which were allotted to nine men and ten women on the Union Agricultural Station. He asked them to complete their tasks satisfactorily. The workers refused and called in a representative of the St. Lucia Workers' Union to represent their interests. They were, however, paid a full day's pay for the uncompleted tasks.

Choc Estates Ltd.

The banana cutters and headers of Choc Estates Ltd. refused to cut or load bananas on the 8th and 15th May 1962. They demanded increased rates for these operations which were later met by the employers. Twelve women and six men were directly involved in the stoppage of work.

The Castries Town Council (Scavenging Department)

In protest against current wages, 21 employees of the Scavenging Department of the Castries Town Council went on strike on the 18th May 1962. The Castries Town Council met their demands and the following increases were made:

- (i) Drivers from \$3.35 to \$3.96 per day;
- (ii) Labourers (male) \$1.88 to \$2.00 per day;
- (iii) Labourers (female) \$1.55 to \$1.66 per day.

Work resumed on the 25th May 1962 when it was agreed that the Castries Town Council would enter into negotiations with the St. Lucia Workers' Union on the conditions of employment of the workers in the Scavenging Department.

LABOUR LEGISLATION

No labour legislation was enacted during the period under review.

SAFETY, HEALTH AND WELFARE

The standard of safety and health measures continued to improve and there were no reported cases of industrial diseases during the period under review.

In 1961 the Sugar Labour Welfare Housing Committee officially opened its housing project situated at Jackmel, Roseau, on lands donated by the Sugar Manufactures Ltd. for that purpose. The houses have been built out of funds to the credit of the Sugar Labour Welfare Fund.

The Jackmel Development Committee held their first general meeting on the 25th November 1962 at the Jackmel Committee Centre, and community development was discussed at this meeting.

Messrs. Geest Industries Co. Ltd. paid out a Christmas bonus totalling \$12,000 to their employees.

INDUSTRIAL TRAINING

During the period under review the Education Department selected 16 boys from Primary Schools for apprenticeships with the Public Works Department and certain private firms to be trained in the following trades: agriculture, printing, mechanics and tailoring. Out of 240 students at the Technical Wing of the St. Mary's College approximately 36 completed their courses in woodwork and technical drawing.

It is hoped to hold evening classes beginning in September 1963 when it is expected that two members of the Voluntary Peace Corps from the U.S.A. will supplement the training staff of the Technical College.

Chapter 3: Public Finance and Taxation

THE main heads of revenue and expenditure in 1960, 1961 and 1962 were as follows:

	<i>Revenue</i>		
	1960	1961	1962
Import Duties	2,158,442	2,403,267	2,554,750
Export Duties	236,491	370,651	391,431
Excise Duty	420,194	411,528	406,849
Other Duties	75,832	16,037	26,500
Licences	57,959	63,415	71,457
Taxes	771,423	1,004,070	1,164,791
Harbour Dues	94,535	113,288	128,074
Other Fees of Administration	1,489,444	405,680	420,789
Post Office	156,021	205,535	159,765
Electricity and Telephone	38,378	65,774	72,333
Rents and Interest	58,259	92,092	117,821
Repayments of Loans and Advances	12	2	—
Sale of Crown Lands	13,020	3,794	3,409
TOTAL LOCAL REVENUE	\$5,570,010	\$5,155,133	\$5,517,969
Grand-in-Aid of Administration	1,168,000	1,450,000	1,232,998
Grant-in-Aid (Special Hurricane Abby)	344,197	480,000	251,030
Colonial Development and Welfare Schemes	1,050,962	1,387,620	988,286
Technical Assistance	—	16,745	892
Overseas Service Aid Scheme	—	—	46,560
Grant-in-Aid Soufriere Reconstruction	10,458	—	3,560
Loan for Soufriere Reconstruction	26,251	—	27,223
TOTAL REVENUE	\$8,169,878	\$8,489,498	\$8,068,518

	<i>Expenditure</i>		
	1960 \$	1961 \$	1962 \$
Legislature	72,523	76,293	68,774
Administration	216,465	221,415	285,816
Accountant General	52,771	68,109	87,575
Agriculture	171,308	154,265	182,394
Audit	32,158	28,835	36,465
Customs Excise and Supply	64,632	82,888	134,935
Education	726,759	758,913	926,452
Inland Revenue	48,841	48,888	55,276
Judicial	39,184	43,448	46,787
Labour	27,135	30,017	41,733
Lands and Survey	36,494	46,597	60,077
Legal	37,825	39,763	56,635
Medical	619,894	674,574	823,077
Miscellaneous	272,539	936,259	415,952
Pensions	235,040	205,748	261,640
Police	393,693	445,575	556,267
Port and Marine	49,692	46,059	66,222
Post Office	88,406	106,332	126,465
Prisons	67,435	74,056	84,895
Public Debt	1,135,350	596,331	495,447
Public Works	93,451	104,837	179,122
Public Works Annual Recurrent	566,992	721,110	681,181
Beane Field	37,901	47,248	46,359
Soufriere Electricity	—	27,327	20,650
Central Housing Authority	15,216	14,629	18,430
Social Welfare	64,411	71,750	80,529
Subventions	277,691	256,202	269,112
Telephones	77,865	99,275	106,225
Vigie Airport	—	—	19,792
Public Works Extraordinary	207,876	294,704	470,624
TOTAL LOCAL EXPENDITURE	\$5,729,547	\$6,321,447	\$6,704,908
Colonial Development and Welfare			
Schemes	1,145,783	1,343,221	1,108,320
Rehabilitation (Hurricane Abby)	344,197	245,420	153,556
Free Grant for Soufriere Reconstruction	11,302	2,416	300
Loan for Soufriere Reconstruction	44,550	4,350	Cr. 300
I.C.A. Assistance	—	14,875	—
Agricultural Credit Fund	—	86,400	—
Deferred Maintenance	159,796	—	—
Surplus Balances	—	—	257,271
Technical Training Centre	—	—	892
Overseas Service Aid Scheme	—	—	57,030
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	\$7,435,175	\$8,018,129	\$8,281,977

Statement of Public Debt showing Loans issued and their respective Sinking Funds at 31st December, 1962

Description of Debt or Loan	Amount of Original Loan	When incurred and purpose	Amount outstanding	Rate of Interest	Provision for repayment and legal authority	Date payable	Amount of Sinking Fund		Remarks
							Amount of Stock	Value of Stock	
Black Bay Estates Acquisition Loan, Colonial Development and Welfare Scheme D376	\$ 47,136.00	1945. For the purpose of acquiring certain lands belonging to the Barbados Settlement Co.	\$ 11,466.00	3½%	—	1967	\$ —	\$ —	Loan free of interest for first 5 years, then repayment by 15 equated annuities at \$4,093 per annum. No Statutory authority.
Castries Reconstruction Loan	1,958,400.00	1949. For relending to persons for private rebuilding whose houses were destroyed by fire on 19-20 June 1948. For sewerage and housing scheme for the town of Castries.	1,938,400.00	3½%	Ordinance No. 9 of 1949	1965/70	—	—	Annual interest at 3½% = \$39,780. Sinking Fund at 3½% = \$39,780.
Castries Reconstruction Loan	823,880.60	1953. For relending to persons for private rebuilding whose houses were destroyed by fire March 1951.	823,880.60	3½%	Ordinances No. 9 of 1953 and No. 37 of 1954	1965/70	1,729,905.52	1,448,686.01	Interest = \$26,776. Sinking Fund = \$26,776.
Vide Bouteille Scheme Loan from Colonial Development and Welfare Scheme D1212	21,600.00	1949. For housing Vide Bouteille Area.	12,384.66	3%	—	—	—	—	Annuity \$1,451 as from 1953.

Statement of Public Debt showing Loans issued and their respective Sinking Funds at 31st December, 1962—cont.

Description of Debt or Loan	Amount of Original Loan	When incurred and purpose	Amount outstanding	Rate of Interest	Provision for repayment and legal authority	Date payable	Amount of Sinking Fund		Remarks
							Amount of Stock	Value of Stock	
Soufriere Hydro-Electric Scheme	\$ 280,119.40	1953. For the installation of the Soufriere Hydro-Electric Plant.	\$ 280,119.40	3½%	Ordinances No. 20 of 1951 and No. 26 of 1953	1965/70	\$ —	\$ —	
East Chausee Development Scheme.	50,000.00	1962. For acquiring and developing into ten residential plots a portion of the East Chausee.	50,000.00	6%	Ordinance No. 8 of 1962	1968	—	—	Debtenture bonds, to be redeemed by 1968.
Soufriere Reconstruction Loans from H.M. Government	293,774.40	1957. For relending to persons for private rebuilding whose houses were destroyed by fire	253,060.88	3½%	Ordinance No. 6 of 1957	1977	—	—	Repayable by 20 equated annual instalments.
Economic Development Loan.	2,006,400.00	1959. For redevelopment of public undertakings.	2,006,400.00	6%	Ordinance No. 2 of 1957	1967/68	1,209,720.00	919,733.00	Interest = \$120,384 Sinking Fund = \$80,256.
Agricultural Credit Fund Loan from Colonial Development and Welfare Scheme D 3285.	494,400.00	For relending to land owners for development, etc. of lands, payment of labour and purchase of materials.	494,400.00	Free	Ordinance No. 9 of 1958	1980	47,267.08	47,267.08	Sinking Fund on deposit in Joint Consolidated Fund.

MAIN HEADS OF TAXATION

	1959 \$	1960 \$	1961 \$	1962 \$
Import Duties	1,650,924	2,158,442	2,403,267	2,554,750
Export Duties	239,738	236,491	370,651	391,431
Excise Duty	385,032	420,194	411,528	406,849
Income Tax	651,703	725,085	901,221	1,047,399
Succession Duty	2,941	46,138	23,556	11,311
Rural House Tax	38,900	31,951	39,416	46,268
Stamp Duty	23,888	26,694	27,445	46,483

Import Duties

Ad valorem and specific rates of duty are paid on imports of food, drink and tobacco, raw materials and unmanufactured articles, and articles wholly or mainly manufactured. Specific rates are paid on animals not for food. Bullion and specie are exempted.

The principal imports of food, drink and tobacco are beer and stout, grain (rice, flour, cornmeal and other cereals), preserves, milk, pickled meats, hams and bacon, tea, coffee, tobacco, cigarettes, edible fats, butter and lard. The main imports of raw materials and unmanufactured articles are leather and lumber; those of articles wholly or mainly manufactured are wearing apparel, cotton piece-goods, hardware, machinery, medicines, metals, paints and colours, and manufactures of wood and timber.

The cost of goods for the purpose of ascertaining the amounts of *ad valorem* duty payable is calculated on the price charged for the goods by the vendor and verified by the genuine invoice for such goods. The calculation is based upon all charges on such goods up to the time of their arrival in the colony; if the goods have been procured otherwise than by *bona fide* purchase, the *ad valorem* duty is calculated on the actual market value of such goods in the colony at the time the goods are removed from bond.

Articles imported by or for the use of Her Majesty's Naval or Military Forces, the Police Force, the Colonial Government, the Administrator, the municipal authorities, and several other articles listed under the second schedule of Ordinance No. 4 of 1960 for the purpose of encouraging trade and commerce, local agriculture and scientific investigation, are exempted from payment of import duty. A preference of approximately one-third is in many cases allowed on goods of Commonwealth origin. The margin of preference is fixed by agreement.

The Administrator in Council may remit or authorise the refund in whole or in part of any customs duty payable or paid by any person on any goods not specified in the table of exemptions in the 1960 Ordinance.

Export Duties

Export duties are collected on exports from the colony, of which the main are bananas, charcoal, cocoa, coconuts and copra, firewood, fruit, honey, lime products and sugar.

In order to collect the duties, export prices are fixed by an Export Prices Committee under the chairmanship of the Collector of Customs. The duty on all items except firewood and charcoal is on a sliding scale.

Excise Duty

Excise duty on spirits made in the island, i.e. rum, was charged at \$3.50 per proof gallon.

Excise duty on locally made clear sugar was levied at the rate of \$44.54 per ton in 1961 and 1962.

Income Tax

The rates of income tax upon the chargeable income of individuals are on a sliding scale from 12 cents on every \$4.80 of the first \$480.00, to \$3.12 on every \$4.80 above \$24,000.00. The tax upon chargeable income of a company is charged at the rate of \$1.60 on every \$4.80. These rates are contained in Sections 24 and 25 respectively of the Income Tax Ordinance, Cap. 210 of the Laws of St. Lucia.

INCIDENCE OF TAX

Income Group	1961		1962	
	Number of Assessments	Tax payable	Number of Assessments	Tax payable
		\$		\$
(a) \$ to 960	1,252	3,497	1,330	4,939
(b) 965 to 1,440	610	7,445	673	9,356
(c) 1,445 to 1,920	351	9,111	341	9,966
(d) 1,925 to 2,400	241	11,866	297	14,313
(e) 2,405 to 2,880	156	13,517	173	15,394
(f) 2,885 to 3,360	94	10,418	153	18,770
(g) 3,365 to 3,840	92	15,794	99	16,998
(h) 3,845 to 4,320	47	11,688	64	13,572
(i) 4,325 to 4,800	30	9,585	49	15,236
(j) 4,805 to 5,280	28	10,376	25	11,107
(k) 5,285 to 6,720	66	38,245	79	42,993
(l) 6,725 to 9,600	65	65,516	84	93,056
(m) 9,605 to 12,000	16	30,442	29	57,536
(n) 12,005 to 14,400	11	31,343	12	32,774
(o) 14,405 to 19,200	15	65,671	14	56,797
(p) 19,205 to 24,000	4	21,540	4	25,241
(q) Over 24,000	2	62,160	3	76,482
Additional Assessments	221	103,194	1,431	133,049
Supplementary Assessments	118	9,263	86	23,517
TOTAL COMPANIES	3,419	530,671	4,946	671,096
	60	559,239	63	658,469
GRAND TOTAL	3,479	\$1,089,910	5,009	\$1,329,565

Succession Duty

This duty is levied under the provisions of the Succession Duty Ordinance, Cap. 220 of the Laws of St. Lucia.

Where death occurs within the colony, the person accountable for succession duty is required within six months after the death to deliver to the Accountant General a declaration of the value of the estate of the deceased; where death occurs outside the colony the period is nine months. The Accountant General may, under certain circumstances, extend the period for a further six or nine months in both cases and further delays may be granted on application to the Judge.

Succession duty is collected on all estates in excess of \$480.00, but only half rate is payable in respect of succession passing to the wife, the mother or the lawful son or daughter of the deceased, or the illegitimate son or daughter of a deceased mother.

Land and House Tax

The following taxes are levied annually under the provisions of the Land and House Tax Ordinance, Cap. 217 of the Laws of St. Lucia, on all lands and houses situated outside of the limits of any town or village:

(a) Upon land, 24 cents per acre or fractional part of an acre.

(b) Upon houses of which the assessed annual rent is:

	\$	\$	\$
Over 25.00 and not over 35.00	.	.	1.80
" 35.00 " " " 50.00	.	.	2.40
" 50.00 " " " 60.00	.	.	3.60
" 60.00 " " " 80.00	.	.	4.80
" 80.00 " " " 100.00	.	.	6.72
" 100.00			7 per cent of the assessed annual rental

The assessment is made by the Tax Officer and payment can be enforced in a summary manner before the inferior courts.

*Chapter 4: Currency and Banking***CURRENCY**

THE currency of the colony is the West Indian dollar which is linked to sterling at the rate of \$4.80 to the £ sterling. Notes and coins issued by the Eastern Caribbean Currency Board are legal tender.

BANKING

At the end of 1962 there were four banks operating in the colony: Barclays Bank D.C.O., the Royal Bank of Canada (re-established

in 1960), the St. Lucia Co-operative Bank Ltd., and the Government Savings Bank with branches at Soufrière, Vieux-Fort, Gros Islet, Anse-la-Raye, Micoud and Choiseul.

GOVERNMENT SAVINGS BANK

	1961	1962
Number of Depositors . . .	4,625	4,118
Amount Deposited	\$408,152	\$418,192

Exchange Rates

Commission rates charged by the currency authorities for the issue and redemption of notes were: one-half per cent plus the cost of any telegrams sent in connection with each transaction either by the Caribbean Currency Board or by the Crown Agents.

The following were the commercial banks' rates of exchange for telegraphic transfers:

<i>Selling</i>	<i>Buying</i>
\$4.83 per £1 Sterling	\$4.77
\$173.2* per U.S. \$100	\$171.2*
\$176.4* per Canadian \$100	\$174.0*

* Rates fluctuated during the years, but these figures show the average position.

Chapter 5: Commerce

THE value of total imports, domestic exports and re-exports (excluding bullion and specie) was as follows:

<i>Year</i>	<i>Total Imports</i> \$	<i>Domestic Exports</i> \$	<i>Re-exports</i> \$
1959	10,135,454	6,242,109	133,850
1960	11,995,381	5,431,139	173,443
1961	13,289,544	7,605,179	131,784
1962	16,746,154	7,483,855	156,546

Principal imports and exports by quantity and value are shown in the following tables for the period 1960-62:

Principal Imports showing Quantities and Value for Period 1960-62

Commodities	Unit of Quantity	1960		1961		1962	
		Quantity	Value \$	Quantity	Value \$	Quantity	Value \$
Beer, ale, stout	gal.	46,879	136,518	49,454	138,487	47,340	139,817
Boots and shoes	doz. pra.	13,206	393,880	12,244	390,422	13,344	436,786
Cement	'00 lb.	103,489	237,852	99,038	189,170	145,722	281,556
Cotton, piece goods	sq. yds.	852,610	367,790	701,901	335,022	718,342	346,270
Art silk, piece goods	sq. yds.	717,353	346,976	831,480	395,519	547,844	287,626
Flour	lb.	9,407,716	828,492	10,526,710	895,622	9,717,720	902,993
Machinery: Agricultural	'00 lb.	903	98,171	4,412	210,663	783	143,620
Machinery: Sugar and Rum	'00 lb.	2,930	96,287	1,069	80,504	62	13,680
Manures: Chemical	ton	5,505	695,711	4,668	582,537	7,165	769,507
Milk, condensed, evaporated and powdered	lb.	549,773	183,583	597,231	186,502	934,273	300,939
Motor cars	no.	195	434,934	153	353,047	274	653,324
Motor trucks	no.	47	171,951	45	183,514	81	296,771
Motor parts	lb.	42,528	74,218	29,446	58,470	45,318	89,953
Tyres for motors, tractors, motor cycles, trucks and buses	no.	2,753	195,765	3,892	155,451	4,613	198,826
Paints and colours	lb.	212,738	105,811	236,053	118,921	243,396	141,532
Rice	lb.	1,118,263	123,091	699,046	159,481	1,687,341	190,686
Sacks and bags	doz.	1,955	5,882	8,973	65,500	5,056	22,294
Soap, common	lb.	312,645	68,211	329,268	69,465	139,413	31,376
Spirits: Whisky	l. gal.	4,493	51,085	7,140	69,104	6,038	68,745
Gin	l. gal.	2,078	17,657	2,797	23,883	3,954	35,322
Rum	p. gal.	23,810	180,670	36,857	200,691	39,664	232,167
Brandy	l. gal.	5,871	45,699	4,488	35,506	6,074	49,413
Codfish	lb.	859,629	289,611	1,267,171	410,989	1,129,640	400,437
Gas oil, diesel oil, and other fuel oils	gal.	425,902	98,776	648,282	139,518	675,486	152,243
Motor spirits (gasoline and other light oils for similar uses)	gal.	520,228	138,255	599,503	151,126	623,453	158,387
including gasoline blending agents	gal.	202,066	47,766	255,504	60,415	269,702	62,380
Lamp oil and white spirits (kerosene illuminating oil)	gal.	35,461	47,766	28,287	38,279	38,583	53,923
Lubricating oils	gal.						
Road oil, pitch, resin and petroleum asphalt, and other by-products of coal, lignite, petroleum and oil shale (including mixtures with asphalt) n.e.s. not chemicals	'00 lb.	26,997	109,373	10,194	32,631	25,703	64,859

Principal Exports showing Quantities and Values for Period 1960-62

f.o.b. Value B.W.I. \$ '000

Commodities	Unit of Quantity	1960		1961		1962	
		Quantity	Value \$	Quantity	Value \$	Quantity	Value \$
Bananas	'000 bunches	2,484	3,369	3,518	5,187	4,213	5,834
Cocoa	'00 lb.	519	268	604	285	541	261
Coconuts	'000	25	1	20	1	468	30
Coconut Oil	'000 gal.	230	554	288	706	51	239
Copra	'00 lb.	16,470	250	36,870	560	50,230	713
Honey	'000 lb.	7	1	9	1	17	3
Molasses	gal.	78,825	690	79,608	707	4,057	366
Sugar	'000 lb.	2	4	4	9	3	4
Mace	'000 lb.	11	13	23	32	20	22
Nutmeg	'000 lb.	4	9	6	18	5	21
Plantains	'000 bunches	577	30	22,709	34	15,578	21
Rum	P. gal.					275	21
Other	'000 lb.			484	32		21

Commerce

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Sources of Imports

c.i.f. Value B.W.I. \$ '000

Sources	1960	1961	1962
Britain	\$ 4,460	\$ 4,720	\$ 6,341
Canada	1,620	1,855	1,897
Other Commonwealth Countries	2,540	2,889	3,536
United States of America	1,234	1,473	2,213
Other Foreign Countries	2,279	2,353	2,759

Destination of Domestic Exports (excluding ship's stores)

f.o.b. Value B.W.I. \$ '000

Destinations	1960	1961	1962
Britain	\$ 4,278	\$ 6,049	\$ 6,319
Canada	1	1,344	7,572
Other Commonwealth Countries	872	212	5
United States of America	1		43
Other Foreign Countries	84		

Chapter 6: Production

LAND UTILISATION AND TENURE

<i>Classification</i>	<i>Estimated acreage</i>
Total area, including water bodies . . .	152,320
Total area, excluding water bodies . . .	150,350
Permanent arable land . . .	22,600
Permanent meadows and pastures . . .	7,500
Wood and forest land . . .	32,000
Other land (mainly shifting peasant cultivation) including also built-on acres	88,250

Land and Water Conservation

The Forest, Soil and Water Conservation Ordinance (1957 Revision, Chapter 25) provides for controlled exploitation of forest areas.

A forest reserve of approximately 5,251 acres is maintained by the Government and there is a proposed Central Forest Reserve of approximately 12,000 acres. Approximately 50 acres of forest are established yearly by the Forest Division of the Agricultural Department. Activity on hitherto uncultivated and therefore forested land, and the expansion of banana cultivation (plants which carry a comparatively superficial rooting system), have created a serious soil erosion problem.

The Forest, Soil and Water Conservation Ordinance does not provide for compulsory soil conservation practices on privately owned holdings. The Extension Division of the Department of Agriculture, however, continues to encourage farmers to observe these practices and small subsidies are provided from Colonial Development and Welfare funds for assisting with the establishment of soil conservation works. Operations have continued on the two conservation demonstration projects established with funds obtained through the Agency for International Development of the United States Government.

Land Tenure

Privately-owned land is held either under freehold or leasehold tenancy or under a form of multiple tenancy referred to locally as "family land." "Family land" has resulted from the laws of inheritance which provide for title in intestate succession to be held jointly by several members of a family.

Agricultural expansion has been seriously limited by the existence of this form of tenancy and the Government is studying the recommendations of the land tenure expert with a view to taking the required action for solving the problem.

Small land settlement schemes have been undertaken, but no programme for large-scale land settlement is in operation.

Renting systems are usually a variant of the metayage system whereby land is cropped on a share basis. The most popular arrangement is the calculation of rental on the basis of one-third of the gross value of the crop.

AGRICULTURE

Production efficiency in recent years has shown a marked improvement, as the result of improved cultivation methods and the use of fertilizers.

An agricultural expansion programme financed by Colonial Development and Welfare funds continued to provide assistance for agricultural development through:

- (a) the construction of feeder roads;
- (b) the propagation and distribution of improved planting material;
- (c) the provision of extension advisory services;
- (d) the establishment of an Agricultural Credit Fund;
- (e) the improvement of pastures and the introduction of improved breeding stock;
- (f) provision of funds for crop investigational work;
- (g) the purchase of mechanical units for rental to farmers.

Technical and financial assistance was also received from the Government of the United States for projects designed to increase the production of food and truck gardening crops.

Sugar

Sugar continued to decline as sugar-growing areas are more rapidly converted to the more lucrative banana crop. The one sugar factory which operated produced 3,880 tons of sugar for the 1961-62 crop as compared to 5,498 for the 1959-60 crop.

Bananas

A total of 4,263,619 stems valued at \$5,809,123 was exported during 1962.

Cocoa

Cocoa exports for the 1961-62 crop were 464,357 lbs. valued at \$209,514.

Animal Husbandry

The livestock population in 1962 was as follows:

Cattle	.	.	.	.	.	.	10,000
Sheep	.	.	.	.	.	.	7,500
Goats	.	.	.	.	.	.	4,000
Pigs	.	.	.	.	.	.	14,000
Poultry	.	.	.	.	.	.	45,000

Cattle and small stock rearing (particularly sheep and goats) has suffered from the keen competition with bananas for the more fertile lands.

Two large private estates are still expanding their beef production.

The island depends for its dairy products mainly on two well-established private dairy herds, and innumerable small peasants who maintain herds of from two to six cows.

In a communal pasturage scheme in the south of the island run by Government the emphasis is now being placed on beef rather than milk.

Government and private enterprise now have over six hundred acres of improved pastures established.

Pigs and poultry rearing continues to expand, and the poultry industry within the next five years should be in a position to satisfy the needs of the island for poultry and eggs.

Agricultural Department Staff

The Department of Agriculture falls under the Ministry for Trade and Industry and includes within its structure divisions of Extension, Research, Animal Husbandry, Co-operatives, Fisheries, Forestry and Machinery. The Chief Executive, the Agricultural Superintendent, is assisted administratively by an Assistant Agricultural Superintendent who is also in charge of directing the extension programme. For extension purposes, the island is divided into agricultural districts, each headed by an Agricultural Assistant with complementary staff.

TIMBER INDUSTRY

The quantity of lumber purchased, dressed and sold in 1962 was as follows:

	<i>bd. ft.</i>	<i>\$</i>
Undressed lumber, purchased . . .	85,752	— 13,848.40
Dressed lumber, produced . . .	62,492	— 25,558.09
Dressed lumber, sold . . .	50,088	— 17,149.26
Sales of creosoted fence posts and fencing rolls were valued at \$1,608.75		

CO-OPERATIVES

At the end of 1962 there were three active registered co-operative societies, one consumer and two credit. Six unregistered credit and three probationary marketing societies traded.

The education programme was maintained during 1962. The voluntary Co-operative Education Council is still in operation.

Chapter 7: Social Services

EDUCATION

IN 1961 there were 52 primary schools in the island; one Government school and 51 aided. The schools consisted of three types: infant, primary and combined.

Infant schools normally cater for children below the age of eight; primary schools for the eight to fifteen age group, and combined schools take in the full age range.

In 1962, the La Ressource Combined School was divided into two separate schools, the La Ressource Primary and La Ressource Infants; and with the opening of the Bouton, Delcer and Ti Rocher Combined Schools, the number of primary schools rose to 56.

During 1962 also, a new building was erected to house the Roseau Combined School which had been operating in temporary quarters.

The period 1961-62 saw a number of replacements and extensions to old school buildings. In 1961 new buildings were provided for the Canaries Roman Catholic Primary and Mon Repos Combined Schools. In 1962 extensions were begun for the Roman Catholic Boys' Infant and Roman Catholic Girls' Primary Schools of Castries. In the same year new structures were built for the Les Etangs Combined, Laborie Girls' Primary, Anse-la-Raye Primary, Bexon Primary and Methodist Infant Schools. The cost of all the buildings was met partly from Colonial Development and Welfare funds and partly by the denominations concerned.

In 1961, the roll of the primary schools was 20,678 while in 1962 it was 21,711, an increase of 1,033. In 1962 the total expenditure on education amounted to \$926,452.

Of a total of 563 teachers employed in the primary schools in 1961, 39 were trained and 524 untrained. In 1962 the number of trained teachers rose to 46, out of a total of 598.

Up to 1962, there were two secondary schools in the island—St. Mary's College for boys and St. Joseph's Convent for girls. In 1961, the roll of St. Mary's College was 380 and St. Joseph's Convent 418. In 1962 the roll of St. Mary's College dropped to 375 while that of St. Joseph's Convent rose to 426. Between the two secondary schools there were 11 graduate and 26 non-graduate teachers in 1961, while in 1962 there were 10 graduate and 31 non-graduate teachers.

During the period 1961–62 12 teachers completed training at Erdiston College in Barbados, two completed training courses at the University of the West Indies, and five were trained at Universities and Colleges in the United Kingdom.

In-Service Training

In September 1961, four United States Peace Corps volunteers joined the supervising teachers' staff making a total supervisory staff of ten. From the month of January and throughout 1962 the supervising teachers visited all schools twice monthly, observed uncertificated teachers at work, gave demonstration lessons and held week-end courses for teachers. In addition they conducted the usual vacation courses extending over a period of six weeks each year.

Handicraft

Twenty schools were visited once a fortnight by two travelling Handicraft Instructresses.

During those visits pupils between the ages of 12 and 15 years received instruction in straw plaiting, sisal twisting, flat and hood weaving, coiling, crochet and macrame work. Pupils also received instruction in designing, decorating, and assembling various articles.

Hats, mats, slippers, coasters, fans, belts, blotting pads, camera briefs, stationery cases, napkin rings and book-covers were among the articles produced by the schools for the annual examinations which are held for Standard VI pupils.

Agriculture

The Agricultural Instructor accompanied by his Peace Corps counterpart, paid an average of two visits per term to all primary schools which cater for boys in the 12–15 age range. On those visits the instructors gave demonstration lessons, discussed problems and advised teachers on the programmes of agricultural instruction being followed by the schools. They also conducted two one-week courses for those teachers who are primarily responsible for giving agricultural instruction in the schools.

Home Economics

A Home Economics Officer together with a United States Peace Corps volunteer were responsible for teaching home economics in all the girls' primary schools in the island. They planned a graded three-year course for girls of 12-15 years, paid regular visits to schools to give advice and help with the actual teaching, saw that schools were properly equipped, and conducted vacation courses for teachers engaged in teaching home economics.

During 1961-62, they worked with the Young Farmers' Club at Babonneau teaching cookery and the construction of simple furniture for homes. They served on the Adult Education Advisory Committee, helped in organising adult classes in home economics and wrote radio programmes on home economics for the Adult Education Radio Series.

Adult Education

Following the appointment of an Adult Education Officer in August 1960, evening classes were started in the village of Gros Islet on the 16th January 1961. Subjects included health, co-operatives, home and family life, local government. Later, English, arithmetic, general knowledge, singing and sewing were included. Students were given opportunities to take part in discussions and to listen to recorded music.

In November 1961, classes were started in reading, writing, English, arithmetic, and domestic science and current events, in Castries.

With the co-operation of the Sugar Labour Welfare Department, classes in English, arithmetic, and domestic science were organised at Ciceron in June 1962.

By December 1962, adult education classes were already organised at Monchy, Grand Riviere, Canaries, Jackmel, La Ressource, Thomazo, La Pointe, Dugard, Micoud, Augier and Vieux-Fort.

With the help of the Extra-Mural Department of the University of the West Indies an adult education seminar was held during the period 14th to 18th May 1962. Sessions included: (1) the needs and methods for adult education in St. Lucia; (2) literacy teaching; (3) case study work; (4) the media of communication for adult education; (5) adult education and the health of the community; (6) adult education and the development of agriculture; (7) adult education and community development; (8) the structure of local and island government; (9) adult education and economic development in St. Lucia.

Extra-Mural Department

The Extra Mural Department of the University of the West Indies continued to provide valuable services.

During 1961-62, classes offered by the Department included: English language, English literature, economics, French and physics.

Several seminars were held, e.g. during the week commencing the 21st August 1961, there was a seminar on "The use of English" which was attended by 140 teachers.

In December 1961 there was a special seminar for employees of the tourist industry.

In January 1962 another seminar was arranged in co-operation with the St. Lucia Employers' Federation.

During April 1962, a seminar was conducted for senior civil servants.

From 30th June to 2nd July 1962, there was a seminar in labour relations arranged in collaboration with Government, the Employers' Federation and the principal trade unions in the island.

The Extra-Mural Department worked in co-operation with the Education Department through its Adult Education Planning Committee in producing weekly adult education radio programmes. These programmes were made possible through the co-operation of the Castries Sub-Station of the Windward Islands Broadcasting Service. The programmes were also broadcast by Radio Caraiibe.

Various discussion groups were organised by the Extra-Mural Department and articles of educational interest were published in the local newspaper, *The Voice of St. Lucia*.

Twenty-two public lectures were organised by the Extra-Mural Department during the period under review.

PUBLIC HEALTH

The Government Medical Services are administered by the Chief Medical Officer who is responsible to the Minister for Labour and Social Affairs for the general working of the service and to the Administrator for matters affecting personnel. The Medical Officer of Health is responsible for the preventive aspects of the services and the workings of World Health Organisation schemes designed to improve the general level of health of the population. Hospital facilities are provided at a general hospital in Castries (the Victoria Hospital), which has a physician superintendent and a surgeon, and at three district casualty hospitals. The island is divided into seven districts each under the charge of a District Medical Officer. Recent improvements in the staff situation have allowed a medical officer to be provided for each district for the first time.



*His Honour the Administrator, Mr. G. J. Bryan, O.B.E., M.C., inspects
Police Guard-of-Honour. He is accompanied by Mr. F. Cannon, Chief of
Police (centre)*



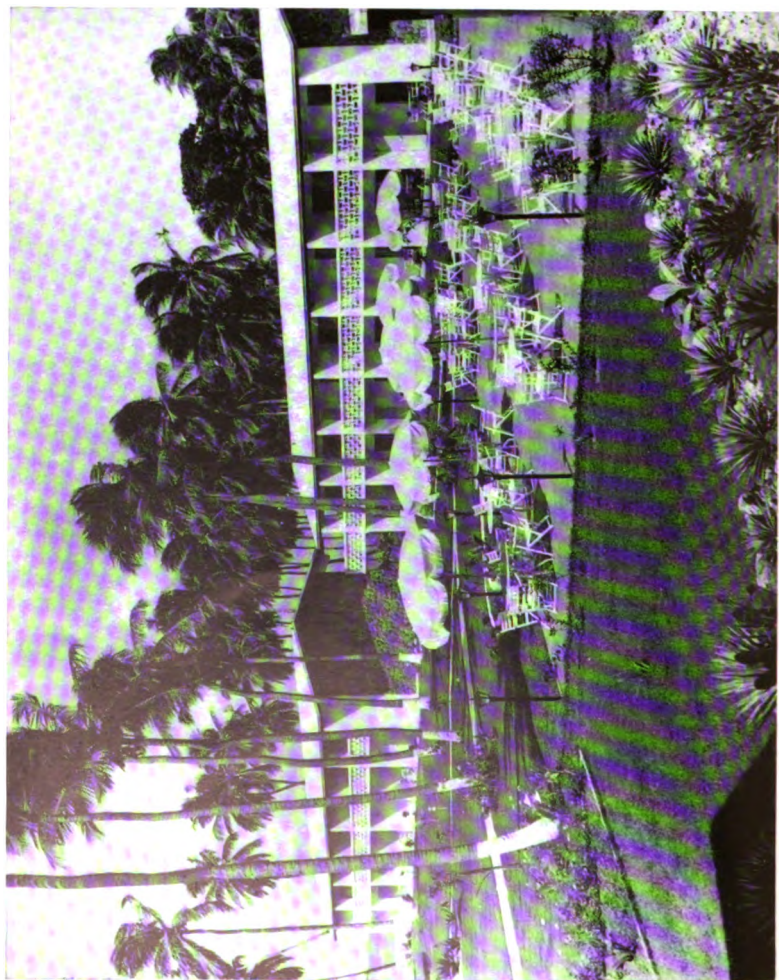
Making fish pots from locally grown bamboo



Government Co-educational Secondary School, Vieux-Fort



*General view of Beane Field, Vieux-Fort, deactivated
United States Army Air Base*



St. Lucia Beach Hotel, St. Lucia's first luxury hotel

Hospitals and Institutions

Victoria Hospital with 200 beds (including a 50-bed tuberculosis wing) is the island's general hospital and handles all cases of serious illness and major surgery. Each district casualty hospital has 20–25 beds. The Mental Hospital, Castries, has accommodation for 120 patients. There is a Home for the Aged and Infirm at Soufrière which affords shelter for 120 persons.

*Auxiliary Services:**Nursing*

There is a nurses' training school at Victoria Hospital at which some 30 nurses qualify annually for a local nursing certificate.

Sanitation Department

The Sanitation Department is under the direction of a Senior Public Health Inspector and comprises 12 Public Health Inspectors who are responsible for the supervision of the island's sanitary service, food hygiene and contact tracing in cases of communicable disease.

Public Health Engineering Unit

The Public Health Engineering Unit, financed from Colonial Development and Welfare funds, is in the charge of an engineering assistant. In recent years its work has been concerned largely with environmental sanitation.

Dental Service

Dental services are provided by two dental surgeons. Clinics are held daily in Castries, and monthly or quarterly in the out-districts. The dental surgeons also inspect and treat schoolchildren.

Public Health Nursing

The Public Health Nursing Service is administered by a Nursing Superintendent who possesses the certificate of Tutor to Health Visitors. The service is responsible for ante-natal, child health, tuberculosis and venereal disease clinics throughout the island.

Health Centres

Health Centres, each with a resident District Nurse, have been set up in populous areas all over the island. At these centres out-patient medical clinics are held by the District Medical Officer, and ante-natal, child health, tuberculosis and venereal disease clinics by the District Nurse.

Major Diseases

Infant mortality rates are declining slowly but morbidity rates are high especially from helminthic infections and gastro-enteritis.

Schistosomiasis (bilharzia) is very prevalent. This disease is contracted by bathing in infested fresh water courses and has sprung into prominence following the decline of malaria. The disease is receiving considerable attention from both local services and the World Health Organisation.

The incidence of venereal disease remains high.

Typhoid fever is endemic and sporadic local outbreaks occur periodically.

Malaria, once the scourge of the island, has virtually been eradicated.

NUTRITION

In 1962 an expanded nutrition programme was instituted, the cost of operations being shared by C.D. & W. and WHO/UNICEF/FAO. The object of the programme is to raise the nutritional level of the population by (i) distribution of powdered milk to pregnant and nursing mothers, infants, pre-school and school children; (ii) providing lunches for under-nourished school children; (iii) instructing school children in the correct methods of horticulture and small animal rearing through the provision of school gardens; (iv) instructing the adult population in the principles of nutrition, provision of a balanced diet and the correct preparation of foodstuffs.

The programme is organised by a local committee under the chairmanship of the Chief Medical Officer. The latter, who is director of the programme, works closely with the Education Officer and the Agricultural Superintendent on a co-ordinating committee. The permanent staff includes an executive secretary, a health educator and two food demonstrators who are responsible for the day to day running of the programme.

HOUSING AND TOWN PLANNING

Castries Regional Scheme "B"

The area was compulsorily acquired by Government on the 28th July 1962, financed by a loan raised under the East Chaussee (Acquisition Development and Sale) Loan Ordinance No. 8 of 1962, and was being developed by the Central Housing and Planning Authority. In the meantime negotiations for payment of the various expropriated lots were proceeding between the several owners and the secretary and executive officer of the Central Authority who was appointed authorised officer for the purpose.

Soufriere Regional Scheme

Negotiations with Her Majesty's Government about re-housing the 64 families still living in temporary shelters are not yet completed.

SOCIAL WELFARE

Social welfare work is undertaken both by official and voluntary organisations.

The Social Welfare Officer advises the Government on all welfare matters. He also administers public assistance and the probation services, and acts as liaison officer between the Government and voluntary organisations. The staff of the department consists of the Social Welfare Officer, Probation Officer, Relieving Officer, two clerks and a messenger.

Juvenile Delinquency and Probation Services

A school for juvenile offenders, the Government Industrial School for Boys, built at Massade, Gros Islet, from Colonial Development and Welfare funds at a cost of \$64,340, was officially opened by H.R.H. the Princess Royal on 20th February 1960. From April 1960 the recurrent costs have been met from colony funds. During 1962 there were 14 committals compared with 17 committals in 1961.

Eighteen acres of land adjoin the school of which 15 are suitable for light agriculture. The staff consists of a headmaster, assistant master and matron. The school curriculum provides for formal education as well as instruction in agriculture and crafts.

The Probation of Offenders Ordinance (No. 11 of 1960) makes provision for probation services. Probation is used by the Courts mainly for juveniles and young persons. In 1962 15 males were placed on probation, compared with ten males and one female in 1961.

The greater use which is made of probation by the Courts as a means of disposal of cases, coupled with a proportionate lowering of the number of unsatisfactory cases, is sufficient proof that probation has been established as a satisfactory method of dealing with many young offenders. The difficulty in finding work for young people, however, remains a serious problem when making plans for the rehabilitation of offenders.

In order to combat juvenile delinquency, the Probation Officer undertakes the voluntary supervision of pre-delinquent cases and the department encourages parents, guardians and teachers to bring

cases of difficult and mal-adjusted children to the attention of the department. The cases are either dealt with by the department or referred to the Medical Department whose assistance is sought for the treatment of cases needing medical attention.

After-Care

After-care of discharged prisoners and the rehabilitation of boys discharged from the Government Industrial School for Boys are also the responsibility of the Social Welfare Department. Discharged prisoners (mainly first offenders) and the boys from the Government Industrial School are given tools according to their aptitudes, together with a small gratuity.

Voluntary Organisations

The St. Vincent de Paul Society, the Red Cross, Ladies of Charity and Women's Association continued their work for indigent persons. The St. Vincent de Paul Society has a home for the poor accommodating 22 males, and recently a new building to house 100 females has been built by the Roman Catholic authorities. Both these homes cater for all denominations.

Plans are being made for the formation of a Council of Voluntary Social Services. It is hoped that the Council will co-ordinate the activities of voluntary organisations, prevent overlapping of effort, advise Government on the need for new services, form an authoritative body which would inform the public about social needs, make the most economical use of public funds and voluntary contributions and ensure joint action in a common programme of social development.

Poor Relief

The Social Welfare Department is responsible for the relief of the aged, the infirm and children under the age of 14 years who are destitute. Each case is investigated before assistance is given. The number of cases who received outdoor relief and the amounts spent in 1961 and 1962 were as follows:

<i>Year</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Amount</i> \$
1961	977	35,277
1962	883	34,488

Assistance is given as outdoor relief or by maintenance in the Home for the Aged and Infirm which is managed by the Medical Department. An average of 100 inmates was maintained at a cost of \$38,000 in 1962.

There is no old-age pension scheme but a number of Friendly Societies provide their members with sick, burial and death benefits.

Case Work

There was a considerable increase in the volume of case work, especially family case work for relatives left behind by emigrants who went to Britain. The department is also responsible for ensuring that adequate arrangements are made for the escort, reception and care of children proceeding to Britain and for the reception and care of children returning from there to St. Lucia.

During 1962 the minimum rate of public assistance was increased by 25 per cent. The Social Welfare Department undertook a general review of the circumstances of all recipients of assistance in order to adjust payments where necessary. The work undertaken by the police as sub-relieving officers in the out-districts was discontinued at the end of the year. This work is now carried out by the officers of the Social Welfare Department assisted by the local authorities.

The department assisted with the after-care of tuberculosis patients and also assisted the dependants of patients during the period of hospitalization.

Emergency assistance was given to victims of fires. Cases were also referred to voluntary organisation such as the Red Cross Society and the St. Lucia Women's Association for assistance.

Chapter 8: Legislation

THIRTY-ONE Ordinances and 40 Statutory Rules and Orders were passed during 1961 and 23 Ordinances and 17 Statutory Rules and Orders during 1962.

Of the Ordinances passed in 1961, 18 were amending Ordinances. The most important were:

The Finance Ordinance, authorising the Administrator or the Minister of Finance to make issues from public funds to a maximum of \$50,000 in anticipation of grants being made by Legislative Council.

The Excise Duty (Sugar) Ordinance, imposing an excise duty on sugar produced or manufactured in St. Lucia during the year 1961.

Development of the Morne Ordinance, providing for the establishment of a Board to promote and develop the Morne into a residential area.

Commission of Inquiry (Amendment) Ordinance, making it an offence wilfully to give false evidence in an enquiry under the principal Ordinance.

Legislative Council (Elections) (Amendment) Ordinance, providing that no election shall be declared invalid by reason of non-compliance with the provisions of the principal Ordinance if such non-compliance or mistake did not affect the result of the election.

Of the Ordinances passed in 1962, 12 were amending Ordinances. The most important were:

Customs (Amendment) Ordinance, providing for Vieux-Fort to be a port of entry.

Police Pensions (Amendment) Ordinance, providing for retirement at the age of fifty years or after twenty years' service.

Hire-purchase Ordinance, establishing the requirements relating to hire-purchase and credit-sale agreements.

Police (Amendment) Ordinance, relating to the method of dealing with offences by police officers.

St. Lucia Banana Growers (Amendment) Ordinance, debarring certain categories of persons from becoming or remaining members of Board of Directors of the said Association.

Chapter 9: Justice, Police and Prisons

JUSTICE

It is convenient to begin a review of the law of St. Lucia from the capitulation of the island to General Grinfield on 22nd June 1803, and the assurance to the inhabitants by proclamation that they should continue in the enjoyment of their rights in accordance with the laws which existed immediately prior to the cession. The Proclamation of 1803, therefore, continued the law and ordinances of the French monarchy as the law of the colony, at least in civil matters.

In 1876, owing to uncertainty concerning the law in civil matters, the Civil Code Ordinance was passed. The Civil Code was published in 1879 and the Code of Civil Procedure in 1881, both based on the ancient law with such amendments as the circumstances of the time required.

Broadly speaking, the law relating to commercial matters is based on principles of English law. The Code was compiled in 1916; it follows faithfully the lines of existing English statutes. In that year

also, statutes of St. Lucia were revised and collected into two volumes entitled *Revised Ordinances of St. Lucia, 1916*. Subordinate legislation was collected in a separate volume entitled *Revised Rules and Orders, 1916*. It was not until 1920 that the *Criminal Code (Law and Procedure)* made its appearance. This, too, is based upon English Common Law and statutes.

Since 1916, new laws, whether by way of amendments to the Code or otherwise, have been published in annual volumes of the Ordinances and Statutory Rules and Orders of St. Lucia. A new edition of the laws, up to June 1957, was published in 1959.

For the administration of justice, the island has been divided into two Judicial Districts. The District Courts of Judicature are presided over by Magistrates who exercise a summary jurisdiction in civil and criminal matters.

A Supreme Court and a Court of Appeal for the Windward and Leeward Islands were established by Order-in-Council in 1939. Fresh provisions regarding those Courts were made by an Order-in-Council in 1959, which also provided for the establishment of a Judicial and Legal Service Commission composed of the Chief Justice of the Joint Supreme Court of the Leeward and Windward Islands, Justice of the British Caribbean Court, a Judge or ex-Judge of a Superior Court of any part of Her Majesty's Dominions, and the Chairman of two of the advisory Public Service Commissions in the territories concerned.

Under the Windward Islands and Leeward Islands (Courts) Order-in-Council, 1959, which came into operation on 1st January 1960, appeals from Magistrates' decisions no longer lie to the Court of Appeal.

Judges* of the Supreme Courts (other than the Chief Justice) were appointed by the Governor-General of The West Indies on the recommendation of the Commission. The Chief Justice* was appointed by the Governor-General after consultation with the Federal Chief Justice. Judges are removed from office only if the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council advises removal on grounds of inability or misbehaviour. The Judicial and Legal Service Commission advises the Administrators on the appointment, etc., of magistrates, registrars and law officers. The expenses of the Joint Courts (including the emoluments of Judges) and the Commission are borne by the eight territories in proportions specified in the Courts Order-in-Council of 1959 and the sums required to meet these expenses are charged on the revenue of each territory by the Order-in-Council.

The Federal Supreme Court* constituted by Article 73 of the Constitution of the West Indies also has certain original and appellate jurisdiction in respect of these territories.

In the Supreme Court in 1961, there were 40 criminal (indictable) cases, 99 civil cases. There were eight appeals in the Windward Islands and Leeward Islands Court of Appeal.

In 1962 there were 60 criminal (indictable) cases and 91 civil cases. There were three appeals in the Windward Islands and Leeward Islands Court of Appeal.

There was no sitting of the British Caribbean Court of Appeal.

*After the dissolution of the Federation of The West Indies on 1st June 1962, the provisions in the Windward Islands and Leeward Islands (Courts) Order-in-Council, 1959, relating to the appointment of judges were amended by the West Indies (Dissolution and Interim Commissioner) Order-in-Council, 1962. Appointments are now made by a Secretary of State.

POLICE

The Force is charged with the maintenance of law and order throughout the island. It is armed and trained in semi-military duties and is liable to actual military service for the defence of the colony against external aggression.

There were no civil disturbances during the period reviewed.

Auxiliaries

There is a Police Reserve of one officer and 49 other ranks.

Authority exists for the enrolment of Rural Constables whose duties are to assist the regular police in such duties as making arrests, laying information and escorting. They are lectured in police duties and payment is given when duties are performed. The establishment at the end of 1961 and 1962 was 178.

Establishment and Organisation

The authorised establishment of the Force in 1961 was as follows:

- 1 Superintendent
- 1 Deputy Superintendent
- 2 Assistant Superintendents
- 3 Inspectors
- 1 Bandmaster
- 5 Station Sergeants
- 15 Sergeants
- 31 Corporals
- 168 Constables
- 11 Constables (Female)

The establishment as shown was increased in 1962 and the title of Superintendent of Police was changed to Chief of Police. The authorised establishment for the year 1962 is shown hereunder:

- 1 Chief of Police
- 2 Deputy Superintendents of Police
- 2 Assistant Superintendents

4 Inspectors
 1 Bandmaster
 20 Sergeants
 30 Corporals
 172 Constables
 10 Constables (Female)

The rank of Station Sergeant, which was previously abolished, was re-instituted during the year.

The Force is organised into three Divisions: A, B & C. During the period under review the police were responsible for the granting of motor vehicles' licences, firearms, registration and licensing, inspection of motor vehicles, and for immigration and the fire service. The Chief of Police is Chief Immigration Officer and is in charge of the fire service. He is also Inspector of Weights and Measures.

Training

Training of all recruits is carried out at the Regional Police Training Centre, Barbados.

Band

The band, in addition to being in attendance at all official parades, provides concerts regularly throughout the island and is most popular.

Traffic and Licensing

<i>Traffic Cases and Accidents</i>	1961	1962
Cases	544	856
Warnings	15	68
Accidents	244	321

There were six fatal accidents in 1961 and eight in 1962. There were 136 persons injured in 1961 and 148 in 1962.

<i>Motor Vehicles, Licences and Permits</i>	1961	1962
Motor Vehicles	1,345	1,571
Drivers' Licences	2,146	2,360
Learners' Permits	1,019	1,191
Driving Tests	762	866
Bicycles	571	625

Passports and Permits

The following travel documents were issued:

	1961	1962
Passports	2,822	1,669
Police Permits	576	185
Emergency Travel Documents	15	14
Seamen's Certificate of Nationality and Identity	30	28
Certificates of Identity	18	21
Affidavits	—	—
Visas	6	12

Crime

The total number of cases reported to the police during 1961 was 1,974 and in 1962, 2,637.

Of the total for the years under review, 4,375 were true cases, 578 indictable and 3,797 non-indictable. Statistics of crime reported to the police are given at Appendices II and IV.

PRISONS

The prison staff during 1961 and 1962 consisted of one Superintendent, one Chief Officer, one Principal Officer, 28 Officers, one Matron and three assistant Matrons.

The daily average number of prisoners in 1961 was 81.9 males and 4.8 females. The average for 1962 was 81.3 and 5.6 for male and female prisoners respectively.

The Matrons' quarters, Female Prison, were extended by two rooms. There were two rooms for four Matrons.

Prison labour continued on the same basis as in previous years.

Prisoners are mainly employed in baking, shoe repairing, tailoring, carpentry, wood-cutting and on the Prison farm.

The fishing operation has been generally successful. Fish caught from March 1962 to December 1962 amounted to approximately one and a half tons. Fish caught was used for consumption at the Prisons, the Victoria Hospital and the Mental Hospital. Some was sold to police and prison officers. The net proceeds from sale of fish were \$1,503.65.

The cost of maintaining and operating the prisons was as follows:

<i>Year</i>	<i>Expenditure</i>	<i>Revenue</i>
	\$	\$
1959	67,953	8,323
1960	67,435	5,828
1961	74,056	6,673
1962	84,895	7,064

Chapter 10: Public Utilities and Public Works**WATER SUPPLY**

THE Castries waterworks draws its supply from surface water originating in a watershed situated some five miles from the town of Castries. At its inception a large forest reserve was created at the upper level of the watershed, and the supply was wholly a gravity one, but within recent years the necessity for extension has resulted

in the inclusion in the system of a pumped supply not originating wholly in the water reserve. The total capacity of the system is 800,000 gallons a day but in times of extreme dry weather, the capacity falls to about 650,000 gallons a day.

At the headworks of the gravity supply, low diversion weirs across the streams at their upper reaches direct the water to screening chambers and thence to the purification plant through asbestos-cement and bitumen-lined steel pipes. In the case of the pumped supply, stream intakes, constructed across the streams at lower elevations, form a sump from which the water is pumped through similar pipes to the purification plant.

There are six electrically-operated centrifugal well pumps in regular operation, two oil engine-driven pumps being retained for emergencies. The pumps operate against overall heads of 350 and 440 ft. from two pumping stations.

At the purification plant, raw matter is subjected to the following treatment: sedimentation with the help of sulphate of aluminium as a coagulant, filtration through rapid gravity filters, sterilisation by the ammonia-chlorine process and restoration of the PH value by the use of hydrated lime.

Two service reservoirs provide storage for 800,000 gallons. Owing to the considerable difference of elevation between the central area of the town and the suburban area, the distribution mains operate under two different heads. Mains with hydrants for supplying shipping with water at rates up to about 10,000 gallons per hour are situated along the wharf. House connections are made at the householders' expense. A liberal number of street stand-pipes provide water for those homes which do not have a private service.

All property movable or immovable within the prescribed water area is subject to the payment of water rates. Property outside the water area which is actually supplied is also subject to the same rates.

For fire protection, a salt-water main has been installed which supplements the fresh water mains. Its capacity is 1,200 gallons per minute, against a head of 300 ft., but it is confined to that part of the town zoned mainly for commerce, industry and offices.

The supply is controlled by the Castries Town Council.

ELECTRICITY

The Castries station has seven diesels ranging from 72kW. to 500kW., totalling 1,378kW. installed capacity.

The numbers of consumers of the different services were as follows:

	1961	1962
Domestic	2,428	2,661
Commercial	299	280
Industrial	22	37

In Soufrière and Vieux-Fort there are small undertakings, the first supplied by hydro and diesel generators and the latter by former United States Base 60-cycle diesels. Together they supply approximately 620 customers. There are also two or three village undertakings providing only an evening service.

PUBLIC WORKS

Works completed were:

- Island Drug Store
- Court House and Sub-collectors office at Anse-la-Rayé
- Water supply at Babonneau School
- Extension of Fire Service Building at Vieux-Fort
- Extension of Female Prisons
- Extension of Marisule water supply
- Erection of water tanks for new schools
- Water supply for Richfond.

Chapter 11: Communications

SHIPPING

Main Ports and Anchorages

Castries

Castries Harbour is situated on the west coast of the island in latitude 14° 01' N., longitude 61° W., and is entered between Pointe D'Estrees and Tapion Rock about three-and-a-half cables southward with the leading marks in line, bearing 121° true. There are depths from four to six fathoms throughout this channel which leads to the wharves.

The harbour can accommodate all but the largest vessels and is considered one of the most sheltered anchorages in the West Indies. There is unlimited anchorage in all but abnormal weather outside the harbour entrance in between ten and fifteen fathoms of water. Vessels of 25 ft. draught and under may anchor as convenient in the stream at the discretion of the Harbour Master. There are two transit sheds of a total area of 11,280 sq. ft., and an estimated capacity of 5,784 tons.

Wharves. (1) Northern Wharf, 720 ft. in length with an overall depth of 27 ft. alongside.

(2) Western Wharf, 520 ft. in length with an overall depth of 24 ft. alongside.

(3) The Reclamation Cable Depot Wharf, length 300 ft., depth 4 fathoms at the Western end to $3\frac{1}{2}$ fathoms. This wharf is situated alongside Messrs. Cable & Wireless Ltd., Cable Depot, and is reserved for the use of cable ships when in port.

For further details see *West Indies Pilot*, Vol. II, page 283f.

Vieux-Fort Anchorage

Vieux-Fort, situated at the south-eastern extremity of the island in latitude $13^{\circ} 43' N.$, longitude $60^{\circ} 57' W.$, provides a safe anchorage except when the wind is in a southerly direction. The bay, which was used during the last war for delivering supplies to the American Army Base, has a pier 1,150 ft. long, and is now used by refrigerated ships loading bananas for Britain every seven days, oil tankers, and United States naval ships. At the head of the pier there is a depth of 31 ft. alongside and vessels with draught of 18 ft. and 500 ft. in length can berth on either side of the outer end.

Facilities also exist for the supply of water. Anchorage is provided in eight fathoms of water south-west of the pier.

External Services

T. & J. Harrison Line: Average twice a month from Europe via islands with cargo only.

Chartered refrigerator ships for banana trade to Britain via Dominica every week.

Compagnie Générale Transatlantique: Average once a month to Europe via islands with passengers and cargo.

Royal Netherlands Steamships Co.: Average twice a month with cargo from Europe.

Saguenay Lines: Twice monthly with cargo and passengers from U.S.A. to all the islands.

West Indies Shipping Service: Average twice monthly from Jamaica to Trinidad via the islands with cargo and passengers, and twice monthly from Trinidad to Jamaica via the islands with cargo and passengers.

Fratelli Grimaldi: Monthly for passengers to Europe.

Linea C.: Average once a month with passengers only to Europe via the islands.

Local Shipping

M.S. *William*: Average once a month to the Caribbean.

M.V. *Lady Joy*: Twice a month to Barbados—occasionally to Martinique.

M.V. *Michael David*: Average twice a month to Barbados, Grenada, Trinidad.

Auxiliary schooner *Grenville Lass*: Average three times a month to St. Kitts, occasionally to Martinique.

Other sailing vessels, auxiliary schooners and sloops: To the islands, mainly Barbados, Trinidad, St. Vincent, Grenada, at an average of twelve times a month.

Statistics of Ships Using Ports

1961

Description	Number	Net Tonnage	Gross Tonnage
War Ships . . .	3	4,402	6,175
Mine Sweepers . . .	1	400	400
Research Ship . . .	1	965	2,245
Steam Ships . . .	13	75,167	113,033
Motor Ships . . .	351	661,018	1,153,199
Motor Vessels . . .	168	13,047	20,759
Tankers . . .	24	23,181	42,091
Cable Ships . . .	10	7,164	22,018
Yachts . . .	481	12,252	17,247
Auxiliary Schooners . . .	292	11,078	13,952
Auxiliary Sloops . . .	30	765	966
Sailing Vessels . . .	14	464	508
Launches . . .	1	2	2
Tugs . . .	4	942	966
Fishing Craft . . .	73	1,072	1,249
Life Boat . . .	1	11	11
TOTAL . . .	1,467	811,930	1,394,821

1962

Description	Number	Net Tonnage	Gross Tonnage
H.M.S. . . .	10	13,857	24,248
H.M. Yacht . . .	Nil		
Coast Guard . . .	Nil		
Research Ship . . .	Nil		
Steamers . . .	8	49,192	86,610
Motor Ships . . .	326	691,857	1,279,738
Motor Vessels . . .	151	12,030	23,351
Cable Ships . . .	7	5,712	17,623
Tankers . . .	31	25,856	47,810
Yachts . . .	449	11,616	16,056
Tugs . . .	8	178	202
Auxiliary Schooners . . .	312	17,395	27,001
Auxiliary Sloops . . .	Nil		
Sailing Vessels . . .	Nil		
Fishing Craft . . .	143	1,610	2,318
Landing Craft . . .	1	3,032	5,987
TOTAL . . .	1,446	832,335	1,530,944

In 1961 there were 11,593 inward passengers and 14,285 outward, and 10,167 inward and 10,884 outward in 1962. Inward freight totalled 58,319 tons and outward 52,635 tons in 1961, and 68,198 tons and 55,548 tons in 1962.

ROADS

The mileage of different types of roads was as follows:

	<i>Miles</i>
Main Roads	125.99
Second Class Roads	129.93
Unclassified Roads	154.68
	410.60

During 1961 and 1962, 11.00 miles of road have been constructed as follows:

	<i>Miles</i>
Main Roads	5.99
Second Class Roads	4.11
Unclassified Roads	.90
	11.00

These are link and feeder roads which have increased access to agricultural lands and facilities for tourism. The feeder road programme is in full operation and is expected to be completed in 1963.

There was a setback in operations caused by hurricane "Abby" in July 1960, which destroyed five bridges and caused impasses on several roads by landslides.

Unclassified roads have been given special attention, consequently 16.82 miles have now become second-class roads.

CIVIL AVIATION

There are two airports: Vigie Airport, about two miles north of Castries and Beane Field Airport, about forty miles south of Castries. The latter is a deactivated American airfield and is available for civil aviation by agreement with the United States military authorities. Movements at Vigie Airport were as follows:

<i>1961</i>	<i>In</i>	<i>Out</i>
Aircraft	1,297	1,297
Passengers	6,259	7,565
<i>1962</i>	<i>In</i>	<i>Out</i>
Aircraft	1,066	1,066
Passengers	8,700	9,151

POSTAL SERVICES

External

During 1961–62 British West Indian Airways continued to provide the aircraft for the conveyance of mail, connecting the British and French West Indian Islands from Jamaica to British Guiana. During 1961 a weekly flight to Dominica and St. Vincent was provided by Leeward Islands Air Transport.

Air mail to Aruba, Curuao, and Cayenne was forwarded as closed despatches via Trinidad. Air mail to the United States of America and to Britain was forwarded via Barbados. The volume of airmail correspondence continued to increase.

Surface mail to and from Britain was conveyed twice weekly by banana-carrying steamers operated by Messrs. Geest Industries Ltd.

Intercolonial mail, and surface mail to the United States of America and Canada, is despatched by the Federal boats fortnightly and by other opportunities as they occur.

Steamers of a French line continued to carry mail between Martinique, St. Lucia and British Guiana via the southern islands. Mail was also received by the S.S. *Colombie* of the same line which called monthly at St. Lucia.

Internal

Internal conveyance of mail between towns and villages was effected by motor bus (under contract) between Castries and Vieux-Fort, calling at Bexon, Delaide, Dennery, Micoud, Patience and Vieux-Fort. Communication with the other coastal towns and villages was by two motor vessels (under contract) plying between Castries, Anse-la-Raye, Canaries, Soufriere, La Pointe, Choiseul and Laborie five times a week. These services provided for the carriage of mail, cargo and passengers. Other motor buses also conveyed mail to sub-post offices in other areas.

Postal Work

In 1961 a sub-post office was established at Augier and in the following year sub-post offices were established at Moreau, Ciceron and Boguis. There are at present 35 district and sub-post offices besides the General Post Office.

The local sale of stamps in 1961 amounted to \$129,315.50 compared with \$132,800.14 in 1962. Sales of stamps by the Crown Agents totalled \$36,997.40 in 1961 and \$2,900.10 in 1962.

16,699 parcels were received in 1961 and 2,089 were despatched. In 1962 16,609 were received and 2,626 despatched.

In 1961 the amount of import duty collected on parcels was \$123,875.19 compared with \$122,985.73 in 1962.

The value of United States money orders paid in St. Lucia in 1961 was \$78,535.32 compared with \$80,734.17 in 1962.

The number of telegraphic money orders received for payment from Britain in 1961 was 190 at a value of \$20,834.62 compared with 192 amounting to \$19,002.60 in 1962.

The value of postal orders paid in 1961 was \$982,685.68 compared with \$977,732.55 in 1962.

The expansion in Post Office business was maintained.

TELEPHONES

During the period 1961-62 the Castries Exchange was extended to provide 700 connections.

In 1962 two new exchanges were installed; one at Gros Islet and the other at Anse-la-Rayé. An additional trunk line was constructed between Vieux-Fort and Choiseul.

From October 1962 the Telephone Department assumed full responsibility for a 24-hour overseas radio telephone service in conjunction with Cable & Wireless.

About 100 telephones were installed between 1961 and 1962, bringing the total of telephones on the island to 930. Seven public telephones were installed in isolated areas.

Chapter 12: Press, Broadcasting, Films and Government Information Services

PRESS

NEWSPAPERS published in the colony were:

Voice of St. Lucia, established in 1885, weekly.

West Indian Crusader, founded in 1934, weekly.

St. Lucia Gazette, issued by the St. Lucia Government every Saturday.

St. Lucia Herald, three times a week.

Castries Catholic Chronicle, established 1957, fortnightly.

BROADCASTING

There is one commercial station and one Government station. The latter is a sub-station of the Windward Islands Broadcasting Station which has its headquarters in Grenada.

FILMS

No films are produced in the colony.

There are five commercial cinemas where American and British films are shown. The Public Relations and Social Welfare Department has a mobile film unit and gives film shows (news and documentaries) throughout the island.

INFORMATION SERVICES

The Public Relations Officer explains the policies, actions and achievements of the Government.

Press communiqués and administrative reports were issued to the press and the public; and feature articles, booklets and photographs of topical interest supplied by the Central Office of Information, London, were distributed to schools, local authorities, youth organisations, libraries and public places. The press made good use of this material as well as of items from the London Press Service and the British Information Services in Port-of-Spain.

Nine communal receiving sets, purchased with Colonial Development and Welfare funds, are installed in rural areas.

British and American news shorts were shown by the commercial cinemas. Filmstrips and 16 mm. documentaries were shown in the schools and rural areas. Filmstrips are lent to schools and other interested groups.

The work of the department was carried out by the Public Relations and Social Welfare Officer and a clerk.

PART III

Chapter 1: Geography

GEOGRAPHY

ST. LUCIA, a rugged volcanic island of 238 square miles, lies between the French island of Martinique to the north and St. Vincent to the south in the chain of the Lesser Antilles. The most distinctive feature of the island is its scarcity of level land. Almost everywhere extremely steep slopes and narrow valleys are characteristic. The cone-shaped hills and interior ranges generally do not rise much above 1,200 feet, except within five miles of the town of Soufrière.

The highest peak, Mt. Gimie (3,145 ft.) is three miles east of Soufrière. More spectacular are the Gros Piton (2,619 ft.) and the Petit Piton (2,461 ft.), forest-clad, volcanic cones rising sheer out of the sea south of Soufrière. A few miles away, in a caldera or crater-like hollow of large size are hot, bubbling, sulphur springs, an indication of the decadent volcanic activity of this district.

The uplands, covered with tropical rain forest or palms (and in some of the lower areas, with low forest and woodland), possess a red clay soil, highly acid and, when cleared, subject to rapid erosion. Numerous short rivers intersect the mountains which generally rise abruptly from the coast.

In places, the mountain streams debouch into fertile, alluvial valleys in which is concentrated most of the island's commercial agriculture. In the northern valleys, the soils consist of alluvium from the surrounding hills and are added to each year by flooding streams. Typically, they are brown silicious loams of considerable depth which tend to become heavier and more in need of drainage in the broader parts of the valleys. In the south the soils, both in the valleys and on the lower hillsides, tend to be lighter, better drained and less fertile.

The principal towns are located on bays along the coast.

The capital, Castries (population approximately 34,834), is situated on a sheltered, deep-water harbour capable of docking all but the largest ships. Sloops, schooners and motor vessels connect Castries with the leeward ports and with neighbouring islands. In recent years, the roads connecting Castries with all the main centres of population have been improved, and although in many places these roads are narrow, steep and winding, they are paved and motorable.

CLIMATE

The rainfall varies considerably in various parts of the island. At Castries, the average annual rainfall is 90 inches, at the northern and southern extremities it is 60 to 70 inches, while in the interior and windward districts it may range from 100 to 145 inches.

There are well defined wet and dry seasons. The wet season extends from June to December and the dry from February to May. Except in the northern and southern extremities droughts are seldom experienced. The wettest month is July and the driest February.

Temperatures at Castries range from a minimum 64° F. at night in the cool weather to a maximum shade temperature of 93° F. in the hot season. In the elevated parts of the interior temperatures are lower. The hot season extends from May to October and the cool season from December to March.

The relative humidity is high, ranging from 60 per cent to 95 per cent according to the time of day and the season.

The island lies in the track of West Indian hurricanes but its situation makes it less liable to these storms than the most northerly islands.

Chapter 2: History

So scant is the information on the early history of St. Lucia that the date of discovery is uncertain, for according to the known evidence of Columbus' voyages, he appears to have missed the island. However, on the 23rd December 1511 the king of Spain looked upon "Santa Lucia" as one of his possessions in the New World. Recent archaeological finds in various parts of the island may yet contribute to our knowledge about the Caribs, the second group of aboriginal inhabitants of the island, who resisted the early attempts at European settlement.

The first known attempt at settlement was made in 1605 when the *Oliph Blossone*, driven off course when *en route* for Guiana, landed 67 of its passengers under the command of Captain Nicholas St. John. A few weeks after the ship's departure, the colonists were attacked by the Caribs and, after several days' severe fighting, the 19 survivors sailed away in an open boat. The island was included in the grant made to the Earl of Carlisle by Charles I on 2nd June 1627, and a more determined attempt at settlement was made in 1638, when some 300 colonists arrived from St. Kitts-Bermudas

and Major Judge was appointed Governor. Though reinforcements arrived in 1639 and 1640, the colonists were the victims of a concerted Carib raid in 1640, and the island was again abandoned.

Meanwhile the French developed an interest in the island, which they claimed was included in a grant made by Cardinal Richelieu to M. d'Esnambuc and M. du Rossay in October 1626. In 1651 M. du Parquet, Lieutenant-General of Martinique, appointed M. de Rousselan Governor of St. Lucia. M. de Rousselan, who had married a Carib, maintained his authority till his death in 1654, but his successors had brief and tragic careers. In 1659-1660, however, local treaties were negotiated between the French Governors of St. Christopher and Guadelope and the British Governors of Nevis, Antigua and Montserrat on the one hand and, between the French and the Caribs on the other; these treaties left the French in possession of St. Lucia and the possibility of peaceful co-existence arose. But in 1663, Francis Lord Willoughby reached Barbados as Governor and as heir to the English Patent and to the problem of finding accommodation for Barbados' surplus population. Barbados not being party to the 1660 treaty, he utilised the services of "Indian" Warner to purchase St. Lucia from the Caribs and the following year, 1664, sent an expedition under Colonel Carew to occupy the island, the French Governor capitulating without a shot being fired. The settlement proved a failure, and after the English withdrawal from the island early in 1666, the French eventually resumed occupation. But the wars of 1673 and 1688, the attacks of the English and the lack of assistance received by the settlement from Martinique, forced a French withdrawal in turn.

In 1718 a fresh grant of the island was made by the French regent, the Duke of Orleans, to Marechal D'Estrees, who attempted to settle it with refugees. British objections were raised to this grant and in 1722 George I granted St. Lucia and St. Vincent to the Duke of Montagu. An expedition under Nathaniel Uring was fitted out at great expense to consolidate this grant; but local French opposition proved too strong and the expedition was forced to withdraw early in 1723, on the signature of an agreement that, subsequent to the British withdrawal, the French would also evacuate and leave the island in its former state till a decision should be reached between the two Crowns. In reality, the French planters in St. Lucia stayed on.

The next attempt at occupation was made in 1744 when, England and France being once again at war, the Marquis de Caylus, Governor of Martinique, established a garrison in St. Lucia under M. de Longueville as military commandant. The Treaty of Aix la

Chapelle in 1748 in theory once more restored the *status quo ante*; in practice, however, M. de Longueville remained as civil or military commandant till his death in 1759, when he was succeeded by his nephew. Meanwhile English and French commissaries disputed at length the respective rights of their nations to the island.

In February 1762, towards the end of the Seven Years War, the island surrendered to Captain Harvey, one of Lord Rodney's staff; but at the treaty of Paris in 1763 the island was finally assigned to France. With security of tenure at last, apparently, assured, the French proceeded rapidly with its development and fortification. The fortifications were strengthened by the construction of the massive forts on Morne Fortune and the capital was removed to its present site from Le Petit Carenage in the Castries Harbour on the Vigie Peninsula. But the island was not yet due for a period of peaceful progress; with one of the finest small harbours in the Caribbean, its military importance was such that it immediately became a target when war broke out, and its improved defences only ensured that subsequent fighting should be more bloody. In December 1778 a strong British expedition surprised and captured the island, and French relieving forces under Count d'Estaing were beaten off. Lord Rodney had been so impressed by the strategic potentialities of the island as a naval base that he wrote in May 1778 to the Earl of Sandwich stressing the importance of retaining the island (his letter is reproduced in full in H. H. Breen's *St. Lucia*, p. 57), and it was from St. Lucia that he sailed in 1782 to win his great Battle of the Saints over the French under de Grasse. But in 1783 it was agreed in the Treaty of Versailles that the island should be restored to France, though the British continued in possession till January 1784.

When war broke out again in 1793, an expedition was sent from England to the West Indies under Admiral Jervis. This force surprised the French and captured St. Lucia in April 1794. France at this time was in the throes of its revolution and in February 1794 a decree had been promulgated for the abolition of slavery in the French Antilles. On the surrender of St. Lucia many of the ex-slaves and a number of French soldiers escaped into the woods whence, with the aid of planters of republican sympathies, they harassed the British. In June 1794 Victor Hugues arrived in Guadeloupe as representative of the National Convention, and he eventually so succeeded in organising and inspiring the disaffected in St. Lucia that they compelled the depleted British garrison to withdraw in June 1795. A strong British force under General Abercrombie reconquered the fortifications after severe fighting in May 1796; but

it was not till the end of 1797 that guerilla warfare ceased and the "Armée française dans les bois" surrendered at discretion.

By the treaty of Amiens in 1802 the island was once more returned to France. But with the resumption of hostilities it again became the object of British attack and it was captured in June 1803. Since then St. Lucia has remained without interruption under British rule, and it was finally ceded to Britain by the Treaty of Paris in 1814.

Till 1838 St. Lucia was administered as a separate administrative unit, its Governor being in direct correspondence with the Colonial Office. In 1838 it was annexed to the Government of the Windward Islands, then comprising Barbados, Grenada, St. Vincent and Tobago, with the seat of the government at Barbados. Though from time to time since then the composition and the seat of government of the Windward Islands changed, St. Lucia always remained a member. At the end of 1959 the post of Governor of the Windward Islands was abolished. From 1st January 1960 St. Lucia has been administered as a separate unit.

An important event in St. Lucia's history was the establishment of two United States bases under the 1940 Anglo-American agreement. In 1950 one of these bases, at Beane Field, was "de-activated" and the Government assumed control by agreement. This base was partially brought back into use in September 1954.

When the French claim to the island was conceded in 1763, their first aim was to develop the colony as an entrepôt centre. But estates were also planted with coffee, cocoa and cotton; the first sugar estate was established in 1765 and sugar gradually obtained pre-eminence in the colony's economy. As British annexation came when talk of emancipation was in the air, and as it was followed by the Emancipation Act in 1833, economic development was slow. But later in the century, with the advent of steamships, the colony became an important coaling station, an activity which reached its peak during the 1914-18 war; with the change over to oil-burning vessels this trade declined.

On the whole St. Lucia has escaped many of the hurricanes, earthquakes and other visitations of nature which have caused so much damage in the other West Indian islands. The first recorded instance of a hurricane visiting the island occurred in 1675; it was visited by severe hurricanes in 1780 and 1817—the latter blowing down Government House and burying the Governor and many others in the ruins. The latest major disasters up to the end of the period reviewed were the fires which destroyed large parts of Castries in 1927, 1948 and 1951; the fire which destroyed three-fifths of the town of Soufrière in 1955; and hurricane "Abby" which caused temporary but severe damage in 1960.

Chapter 3: Administration

CENTRAL GOVERNMENT

THE present constitution came into force on 1st January 1960, following decisions taken at a constitutional conference in London in June 1959. The main features of the present constitution are:

(a) The island is administered by an Administrator, who is Her Majesty's Representative in the Territory and is appointed by Her Majesty on the advice of the Secretary of State for the Colonies. In exercising his power the Administrator is required, unless otherwise provided, to act in accordance with the advice of the Executive Council.

(b) The Executive Council has the general control and direction of the government of the Territory. It is presided over by the Administrator and consists of one *ex officio* member (the Attorney General) and five other members (including a Chief Minister, three other Ministers, and a Member without Portfolio). The Administrator appoints as Chief Minister the elected member of the Legislative Council who, in his judgment, is most likely to command the confidence of a majority of the elected members in the Legislative Council. The other unofficial members are appointed by the Administrator, on the advice of the Chief Minister, from among the nominated and elected members of the Legislative Council. Ministers are assigned responsibility for Government business (including financial matters, but excluding criminal proceedings, internal security, the audit of public accounts and the public service).

(c) The Legislative Council is composed of one *ex officio* member (the Attorney General), two nominated members appointed by the Administrator after consultation with the Chief Minister and ten members elected by universal adult suffrage. The Legislative Council is presided over by a Speaker elected by the Council either from within or without the Council, and having in either case a casting vote only. A Deputy Speaker is elected from within the Council.

The members of the Executive and Legislative Councils at the end of 1962 are listed below:

MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

His Honour G. J. Bryan, O.B.E., M.C. (President).

Hon. W. Cenac, L.L.B. (Acting Attorney General).

Hon. G. F. L. Charles (Chief Minister and Minister of Finance)
Hon. H. B. Collymore (Minister of Trade and Industry)
Hon. M. Jn. Baptiste (Minister of Communications and Works)
Hon. J. A. Bousquet (Minister of Labour and Social Affairs)
Hon. G. A. Mason (Member without Portfolio)

MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

Speaker

Hon. C. A. Compton

Ex Officio Member

Hon. W. Cenac (Acting Attorney General)

Elected Members

Hon. G. F. L. Charles, Member for South Castries
Hon. H. B. Collymore, Member for East Castries
Hon. M. Jn. Baptiste, Member for Anse-la-Rayé/Canaries
Hon. J. A. Bousquet, Member for North West Castries/Gros Islet
Hon. G. A. Mason, Member for Choiseul
Hon. J. G. M. Compton, Member for Micoud/Praslin
Hon. C. A. M. Compton, Member for Vieux-Fort/Laborie
Hon. G. W. Mallet, Member for Central Castries
Hon. M. M. Mason, Member for Dennery
Hon. V. G. Monroe, Member for Soufrière

Nominated Members

Hon. M. C. Salles-Miquelle, O.B.E.
Hon. D. B. James

Chapter 4: Weights and Measures

THE standard measures recognised by the laws of St. Lucia are the Imperial yard, the Imperial pound, and Imperial gallon.

Chapter 5: Reading List

BREEN, H. H. *St. Lucia: Historical, Statistical and Descriptive*. Longmans, Brown Green and Longmans, 1844.

GARRAWAY, E. G. *St. Lucia Handbook, 1900, 1902 and 1903*. Revised by W. W. Palmer and M. G. Augustin, Castries, 1924.

URING, N. A. *Relation of the late Intended Settlement of the Islands of St. Lucia and St. Vincent in America in Right of the Duke of Montagu and under His Grace's Direction and Orders, in the Year 1722*. London, 1725.

WILLIAMS, REV. COOPER. *An Account of the Campaign in the West Indies in the year 1794*. London, 1796.

The Memorials of the English and French Commissaries concerning St. Lucia. London, 1755.

Essai sur la Colonie de Sainte Lucia. Par un ancien Intendant de Cette Isle. Neuchatel, 1779.

JESSE, REV. FR. C. *Outlines of St. Lucia's History*. Voice Press, St. Lucia, 1956.

JESSE, REV. FR. C. *The Amerindians in St. Lucia*. St. Lucia Archaeological and Historical Society, 1960.

The following books have sections on St. Lucia:

ASPINALL, SIR ALGERNON. *The Pocket Guide to the West Indies*. 11th edition. Methuen, 1960.

BLANSHARD, PAUL. *Democracy and Empire in the Caribbean*. Macmillan, New York, 1947.

BOND, JAMES. *Birds of the West Indies*. Collins, 1960.

BURN, W. L. *The British West Indies*. Hutchinson, 1951.

BURNS, SIR ALAN. *History of the British West Indies*. Allen and Unwin, 1954.

BUTLER, G. PAUL and BUTLER, ERICA. *Caribbean and Central America*. Toronto, D. Von Nostrand, 1960.

- CUTTERIDGE, J. O. *Geography of the West Indies and Adjacent Islands*. 2nd edition. Nelson, 1948.
- DANIEL, E. W. *West Indian Histories. Book III: Story of the West Indian Colonies*. Nelson, 1942.
- EDWARDS, BRYAN. *History, Civil and Commercial, of the British Colonies in the West Indies*. 2 vols. 1793. 5th edition, 6 vols., 1818–19.
- EGGLESTON, GEORGE T. *Orchids in the Calabash Tree*. Frederick Muller, 1963.
- FERMOR, PATRICK LEIGH. *The Travellers' Tree: a journey through the Caribbean Islands*. Murray, 1950.
- FODOR'S. *Guide to the Caribbean, Bahamas and Bermuda*. MacGibbon and Kee, 1961.
- FROUDE, J. A. *The English in the West Indies*. Longmans, 1888.
- HIGHAM, C. S. S. *The Development of the Leeward Islands under the Restoration, 1660–1688*. Cambridge University Press, 1921.
- KNOWLES, W. H. *Trade Union Development and Industrial Relations in the British West Indies*. Berkeley, University of California Press, 1959.
- MANNINGTON, GEORGE. *The West Indies*. Nash and Crayson, 1930.
- MITTELHOLZER, EDGAR. *A Tale of Three Places*. Secker & Warburg, 1957.
- PARES, R. *War and Trade in the West Indies, 1739–1763*. Oxford University Press, 1936.
- RAGATZ, LOWELL J. *The Fall of the Planter Class in the British Caribbean, 1763–1833*. The Century Co., New York.
- REDGRAVE, WILLIAM J. *Islands in the Wind: what to see and how to cut costs in the West Indies*. 4th edition. Greenlawn, New York. Harian Publications, 1961.
- TREVES, SIR FREDERICK. *The Cradle of the Deep*. Murray, 1904. (Reprinted, 1934.)
- WILLIAMSON, J. A. *The Caribbee Islands under the Proprietary Patents*. Oxford University Press. 1926.
- The West Indies and Caribbean Year Book*. Thomas Skinner, Annual.
- The Windward Islands Annual*. Published by Letchworth Publishing Agency for the Windward Islands Government.

OFFICIAL PUBLICATIONS

Obtainable, if in print, from the Government Printer, St. Lucia.

Report of the Federal Team to St. Lucia. 1960.

Report of the Commission of Enquiry into the Police under the Chairmanship of Mr. Justice J. W. B. Chenery. 1962.

Report of the Commission of Enquiry into the Police under the Chairmanship of Sir Eric Hallinan. 1962.

The Forest and Timber Trees of St. Lucia. By W. G. Lang.

Report on Yields and Costs Production of Coconuts and Bananas in St. Lucia. By J. Wright, C.B.E., B.Sc., A.I.C.T.A.

Quarterly Progress Reports on the Agricultural Development Programme for St. Lucia. September, 1954.

St. Lucia Gazette (weekly).

Estimates of Revenue and Expenditure. (Annual).

Obtainable, if in print, from Her Majesty's Stationery Office.

Report of the Leeward and Windward Islands Constitutional Conference held in London, June, 1959. Cmd. 804, 1959.

APPENDIX I

The following Colonial Development and Welfare Schemes were initiated or in progress during 1961 and 1962:

<i>Scheme No.</i>	<i>Grant £</i>	<i>Titles</i>
D2163C	12,861	Cocoa Industry Expansion Programme.
D2210A-C	191,165	Construction of Feeder Roads.
D2739B	13,882	Public Health Engineering Unit.
D2892A	26,580	Forestry Development.
D3129A	22,550	Vigie Airport Extension.
D3257A	29,859	Fisheries Development.
D3489A	29,056	Environmental Sanitation Programme.
D3559A	297	Training of Teachers at Erdiston College.
D3735 (56)	944	Training at Eastern Farm Institute (Prudhomme and Dusauzay).
D3735 (85)	175	Training in Statistics (B. Crick, M. Alexander and J. Charles).
D3735 (86)	272	Training of Cocoa Officer (H. Williams).
D3736 (29)	338	Caribbean Vocational Training Scheme.
D3736 (33)	83	Caribbean Vocational Training Scheme (O. Jules and H. Haynes).
D3736 (42)	120	Caribbean Vocational Training Scheme, passages only (Headmaster, St. Mary's College).
D4071 (33)	317	Training in Criminal Investigation.
D4071 (43)	52	Training of Enumerator for Household Budget Survey (G. St. Jour).
D4071 (45)	987	Training in Social Welfare (S. James).
D4071 (55)	501	Training at Eastern Caribbean Farm Institute (St. G. Allain).
D4071 (56)	501	Training at Eastern Caribbean Farm Institute (J. Mason).
D4071 (135)	616	Training at Eastern Caribbean Farm Institute (P. Josie)
D4071 (139)	302	Training in Meats and Foods (O. Spencer).
D4071 (140)	302	Training in Meats and Foods (L. Augustin).
D4071 (141)	380	Training in Film Production (L. Duval).
D4071 (146)	391	Training in Parliamentary Procedure (Hon. C. Compton).
D4071 (147)	275	Training in Rodent Control (F. Felix).
D4071 (148)	1,144	Training in Housing Management (L. Helene).
D4071A (150)	716	Training in Public Health (F. Fletcher).
D4071A (151)	476	Training in Laboratory Work (D. Lee).
D4071A (152)	615	Training in Public Health Nursing (M. Pierre).
D4092 (29)	353	Completion of Diploma Course at I.C.T.A. (B. Auguste).
D4092 (31)	779	Course in Civil Engineering (L. Blaize).
D4092 (32)	1,332	Course in Veterinary Medicine (V. St. Omer).
D4093 (15)	500	Public Laundry at Anse-la-Rayé.
D4093 (16)	500	Handicraft Centre.
D4110	719	Household Budget Survey.
D4207	4,874	Soil Survey of St. Lucia.
D4330	1,078	Public Health Nursing Service.
D4331	13,737	Supplementary Staff, Medical Department.

<i>Scheme No.</i>	<i>Grant £</i>	<i>Titles</i>
D4441	17,893	Additional Staff, Public Works Department.
D4441A	19,287	Additional Staff, Public Works Department.
D4441B	13,755	Additional Staff, Public Works Department.
D4516	43,936	Additional Staff, Agricultural Department.
D4516A	57,078	Additional Staff, Agricultural Department.
D4532	2,640	Public Health Engineering Unit.
D4561	3,441	Development Staff.
D4561A	8,871	Development Staff.
D4577	19,514	Establishment of Technical Training Centre.
D4778	10,500	Construction of Canaries Water Works.
D4778A	1,100	Construction of Canaries Water Works.
D4894	5,279	Recurrent Administration Costs, Eastern Caribbean Farm Institute.
D5281	13,414	Emergency Teacher Training Centre.
D5295	32,091	Expanded Nutrition Programme.

PENDIX IV

REPORTED TO THE POLICE IN 1962

Number of Cases

NOT ACCEPTED		DISPOSITION			
<i>Trivial or vexatious or false complaints</i>	<i>Insufficient Evidence</i>	<i>Total of Accepted Cases</i>	<i>Accused dead or insane or too young to prosecute</i>	<i>Acquitted or Discharged</i>	<i>No (and)</i>
6	—	781	1	37	
—	—	—	—	—	
2	—	8	—	7	
1	2	14	—	3	
—	—	5	—	2	
—	—	23	—	3	
—	—	7	—	1	
—	—	2	1	—	
17	8	273	—	13	
6	3	191	—	10	
1	—	23	—	4	
54	2	650	—	30	
—	—	5	—	—	
1	—	181	—	2	
—	1	41	—	1	
—	—	6	—	2	
1	—	8	—	—	
2	—	69	1	4	
3	2	108	—	8	
—	—	5	—	1	
94	18	2,525	3	128	

Number of Persons

NUMBERS CONVICTED										
Sentence		Corporal Punishment				Fine				Order of proceeding
Juv. 8-16				Juv. 8-16				Juv. 8-16		
M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	
—	—	—	—	1	—	409	167	—	4	3
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
—	—	—	—	—	—	49	5	—	1	1
—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
—	—	—	—	—	—	3	3	—	—	—

OSAL OF ACCEPTED CASES

<i>He Prosequi (withdrawn)</i>	<i>Convicted</i>	<i>Cases proved and order made with- out conviction</i>	<i>Closed Undetected</i>	<i>Pending Investigation or awaiting trial</i>
79	541	—	6	117
—	—	—	—	—
1	6	—	—	1
12	84	—	5	17
—	—	—	—	—
2	4	—	2	3
—	1	—	1	1
4	10	—	—	6
—	—	—	—	—
—	1	—	—	6
55	119	—	27	59
40	79	—	15	47
3	8	1	—	7
—	—	—	—	—
31	134	1	362	92
1	1	—	2	1
4	16	—	129	30
3	24	—	5	8
—	2	—	1	1
—	—	1	6	1
12	21	—	14	17
10	31	—	36	23
—	—	—	—	—
1	1	—	1	1
258	1,083	3	612	438

<i>made without g to Conviction</i>		<i>Other Penalties</i>				<i>Otherwise Disposed of</i>			
Juv. 8-16		M	F	Juv. 8-16		M	F	Juv. 8-16	
M	F			M	F			M	F
—	—	61	36	6	—	30	3	—	—
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